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THIS BASIC COURSE IN MENDE, A TONE LANGUAGE OF LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE, IS DESIGNED TO BE TAUGHT BY A LINGUIST AND AN INFORMANT TO LINGUISTICALLY ORIENTED STUDENTS. THE TEXT COMPRISES TWO SECTIONS, THE FIRST CONTAINING A VOCABULARY, USEFUL PHRASES AND "NARRATIVE DRILLS" TO ACCOMPANY THE 18 SLIDES PREPARED FOR THE COURSE. THE NARRATIVES ARE DESIGNED TO BE USED AS SELF-INSTRUCTIONAL DRILLS. THE SLIDES PROVIDE A GENERAL CULTURAL BACKGROUND. THE SECOND SECTION COMPRISES 22 LESSON UNITS EACH OF WHICH DEALS WITH A PARTICULAR FEATURE OF THE LANGUAGE. THESE LESSONS CONTAIN EXPLANATORY NOTES ON STRUCTURE, AND LOCATIVE AND NOMINATIVE PHRASE DRILLS WHICH PREPARE THE STUDENTS TO FORM FULL SENTENCES. ALL DRILLS ARE ACCOMPANIED BY TRANSLATIONS. THE GENERAL EMPHASIS THROUGHOUT IS ON TONE AND MORPHOPHONEMICS. THE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS INCLUDE TAPES. (AMM)

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BASIC
COURSE IN MENDE

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by

Richard A. Spears

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Northwestern University
1967

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BASIC COURSE IN MENDE

BY

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OE Contract Number OEC3-6-061491-1633

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R.A.S.

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INTRODUCTION

The Basic Course in Mende is designed to be taught by a linguist and an informant to linguistically oriented students. The Short Course in Mende includes the most 'immediately useful' parts of the Basic Course and can be used by anyone.

Although the twenty-two chapters of drills and comments are arranged so that the student will receive the maximum benefit by studying them in order, it is not necessary to do so. All drills are accompanied by translations and any drill can be done for pattern practice whenever the teacher desires. The Useful Phrases are meant to be memorized, English to Mende, Mende to English. The Slide Narratives are to be used as dialogues, lectures and question/answer material. Work on the Useful Phrases, Slide Narratives and the chapters can go on simultaneously. It is felt that this permits the teacher needed flexibility in organizing his lesson plans. Suggested methods of using the material are to be found before each section.

There are a few compromises made with the linguistic analysis on which this work is based. For instance, the code ng in the lexicon probably reflects usage to a great degree. All verbs probably could take the ng, (ngɔ̀), suffix, but the ng coding as it is, may reflect semantic restrictions that would be handled another way in a thorough analysis. There are a few arbitrary decisions, too, such as whether to write words like kal.i, tone: (▔ ▁), as kál.ì or kâl.i. The period that follows the deletable consonants may also reflect usage. It is probable that nearly all l's are deletable. A great deal of space is devoted to considering the possible sources for phonetic downstep. Persons oriented in linguistics are likely to find the suggestions of downstep source interesting, if not provocative. It is presented here in hopes that other persons interested in Mende may also wich to pursue the question.

Tone and morphophonemics are considered to be of such major importance that the entire course is built around these two areas. Vocabulary is not minimized in this course. With a large vocabulary, an understanding of the predicators l.ɔ́, mia and lé, some basic knowledge about derived nominal compounds and facility with question intonation, a person can understand a great deal of what he hears in Mende and can make himself understood. An active vocabulary will permit students to expand the usefulness of the Useful Phrases.

K.H. Crosby's work, An Introduction to the Study of Mende, Heffer, Cambridge, 1944, is considered by many to be the major work in Mende. Ethel Aginsky's A Grammar of the Mende Language, LSA Dissertation Number 20, published in 1935 is in many ways a more thorough, systematic and exact presentation.* Crosby's work was apparently more readily available when such a work was needed by missionaries and other *pu-blɛ.ɛ.îsia* working in Sierra Leone. As early as 1917, A.T. Sumner, in his *A Handbook of the Mende Language*, marked the falling tone on words like *pundî* (▬╲). This fall which becomes a high before a low and makes a following high pitch a mid pitch, was not recorded in Crosby's work. Nevertheless, it is extremely useful and the treatment of tone therein is one of the first such attempts. I, like most people, began my Mende study with Crosby's work and still refer to it often.

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*This work has just recently been reprinted by Kraus Reprint Corp.

The major work in Mende is *The Structure of Sentences in Mende*, SOAS, 1963, by Gordon Innes. This is required reading for all serious students of Mende. This work and Professor Innes' *A Mende Grammar*, MacMillan and Co., 1962, are readily available. The work of Aginsky, Crosby, and Innes represents three different approaches to Mende and this basic course represents, in many instances, a fourth, but not totally new view of Mende. An extensive Bibliography of Mende appears in Sierra Leone Language Review, Number 1, 1962, by P.E. Hair.

This course should aid students and teachers in mastering Mende phonology, particularly tone. It should acquaint students with the basic sentence structures in the language and illustrate some of the complex forms. The material consists of specimen sentences in the drills, sentences one is likely to find useful in the Useful Phrases and natural spontaneous Mende in the Slide Narratives. The grammatical comments are intended to be a help to those who are interested in the technical side of Mende studies. These comments can be totally ignored in favor of the drills by persons who seek a more practical knowledge. An effort has been made to inform the student of the purpose of what he is doing and how it is meant to help him.

This is not an attempt to establish a *norm* in Mende. The lexicon reflects the speech of many people, but the phrases, narratives and specimen sentences reflect the speech of one individual. The student should be pleased if he is ever able to communicate in Mende as well as the Mende whose speech this work reflects. The transcription used here is considered adequate only for the special emphases of this course.

It is hoped that those who use this material will feel free to suggest additions, clarifications, criticisms and corrections.

USEFUL PHRASES
AND
THE SLIDE NARRATIVES

The format for the Useful Phrases and the Slide Narratives is the same. Each line has five entries.

a. a transcription of the Mende,
b. phonetic tone marks, one for each vowel in a,
c. a form by form presentation of the base forms (lexical primes, before the application of any morphophonemic rules),
d. a more or less literal translation of c, and
e. an English translation of a.

This format offers the following possibilities for use.

1. The student can drill himself in Mende tone by covering line b. and saying line a.
2. If the student wishes only to memorize the material and not drill himself in producing the correct tone of 'assembled primes', he can do so by ignoring the tonal source marks on line a. and read all tone from line b.
3. The student can drill himself on consonant mutation and other morphophonemic and tonal changes by covering lines a. and b. and trying to produce them by reading from line c.
4. The student can test his vocabulary by covering line c. and translating from line d. (English) to the Mende in line c. Mende to English can be drilled by going from line c. to line d.
5. The student can practice the very important skill of parsing line a. and working back to the prime forms by covering line c.

For this type of study, the student is asked to 'build' his own teaching machine. A typical device is a lead pencil which can be placed over the line one wishes to conceal. Notched and slotted cards are often used for this purpose.

It is intended that line c. be transcribed in the same form that words have in the lexicon. When a student can perform correctly the operations described above, (1-5), he has either completely memorized the material, (which may be the goal of some persons), or he has learned how to perform the basic operations in assembling Mende lexical primes into sentences. An effort has been made to reflect the semantic range of some words by selecting the most appropriate English word for line d. For instance, motó.í is sometimes given as 'bus' and sometimes as 'truck' depending on what is being referred to

There are a few abbreviations used.

emph. - affirmative emphatic
id. - identity (Noun is Noun)
neg. - negative

When an item in line d. is in single parentheses (e.g. (.à)), it means that the vowel and period are deleted, but the tone mark remains. When an item in line d. is in double parentheses (e.g. ((.à))), it means that the entire form including the tone mark is deleted.* The Useful Phrases are numbered continuously, 1-322. The numbering of the Slide Narratives begins anew for each slide.

The phonetic tone bars in line b. are relative to the first bar inside the parentheses and not necessarily relative to the placement of the tone bars in relation to the top or bottom of the parenthesis.

Tone is fully explained in Chapter Two. In marking phonetic tone, there has been an attempt to reflect the choices between the phonetic representation of (´`´) as (‾_‾) or (‾--). Normally, (‾--) will be heard, but both (‾_‾) and (‾--) are correct.

---

*In some instances, in the Useful Phrases, items such as ((yɛ̀)) which are not evident in line a. are not represented at all in line c. and d.

VOCABULARY

The following words occur in the Useful Phrases, Slide Narratives and the Drills. More complete definitions and other information can be found in the lexicon.

bâ	- price
bafa	- hut
báji	- yellow
ba.lâ	- basket
béi	- here
beté	- sauce
bɛlɛ	- trousers
bôla	- cup
bɔlɔ	- hat
bɔndɔ́	- okra
bubá	- tunic
dɔ́gbɛ	- tender
dɔmɛ́	- story
dɔ̂w.u	- duck
fáji	- bucket
fakâl.i	- pawpaw
fel.ě	- trade
fɛ́	- blow
fisǎ	- improve
fogbâ	- whip
fóma	- switch
foni	- elephant grass
fɔ́ndɔ	- sweat
fɔtó	- photograph
fúka	- grind
fula	- village
gba	- different
gbɛhɛ́	- bench
gbí	- any
haǎ	- die
hál.e	- medicine
heǐ	- sit
hinî	- husband
hoǐ	- hold
kal.ǐ	- snake
kâl.i	- hoe
kamɔ́	- teacher
kíl.i	- think
kol.ě	- clean
kóma	- cheek
koǒ	- belly
kɔ́l.i	- leopard
kɔ̂pɔ	- money
kɔ́w.ɔ	- foot
kpal.ǎ	- farm
kpatɛ̂	- make
kpékpe	- good
kpol.ǒ	- salt
kulǎ	- cloth
lolɛ́	- how many
mahǎ	- chief
mbaǎ	- rice
ndáw.a	- leaf
ndě	- say
ndǐ, (lǐ)	- go
ndomǎ	- shirt
ndɔɔ̌	- wine
nɛɛ̌	- sweet
nɛnɛ	- picture
ngâma	- eye
ngáw.u	- egg
ngengě	- work
ngewɔ̂ɔ	- God
ngóva	- old
ngúl.u	- tree
ngú.lɔ	- oil
nikǎ	- cow
njiǐ	- sleep
nɔ́nɔ	- milk
núm.u	- person
nyahâ	- wife
nyâpo	- woman
nyɛ́	- fish
ŋɔnǐ	- bird
pǎ(wǎ)	- come
paǎ	- kill
pé.e	- do
pel.ě	- road
sɛ́l.ɛ	- banana
taǎ	- town
tangǎ	- cassava
taw.á	- calabash
téw.e	- cut
tɛ́	- lift
tɛl.ǐ	- black
tokǒ	- hand
tól.i	- call
toǒ	- stand
tɔ́	- see
tɔ́kpɔ	- palm
yɛ	- be

1. a. nyágá.ahugbɔ̀yɔ̂ngɔ̀
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ – ¯ _)
c. ngí kál.a hu kpɔyɔ̂ ngɔ̀
d. my bone's inside's exhaustion is
e. I am tired.

2. a. ndɔlɛ̌.îl.ɔ́nyáma
b. (_ _ ¯ – – –)
c. ndɔlɔ̌ .í l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngí ma
d. hunger the emph. is me on
e. I am hungry.

3. a. hákpɛ.íjînɛ.ɛ̌ng.ɔ̀
b. (¯ ¯¯¯ _¯ _)
c. hákpa .í jí nɛɛ̌ ngɔ̀
d. sauce the this's sweetness is
e. This sauce tastes very good.

4. a. kayê.ìngewɔ̂ɔma
b. (– ¯ _ _ ¯ – _)
c. kayê .ì ngewɔ̂ɔ ma
d. blame it-not God on
e. I am well, nothing wrong that I can blame on God.

5. a. nyágòǒ.ô`vé.a
b. (¯ _ _ ¯ – –)
c. ngí kòǒ .í (.ì) fé ng.a
d. my stomach the did swell has
e. I am full.

6. a. njiǐ-mɛ.i.îl.ɔ́nyáma
b. (– – ¯ – – _ – –)
c. njiǐ mán.i .í l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngí ma
d. sleep desire the emph. is me on
e. I am tired.

7. a. ngá`vángǐma
b. (‾ - _ -)
c. ngí (.à) fǎ ngǐ ma
d. I will greet him on
e. I will give my regards to him.

8. a. nyáâ.á`lìmadɔ́kîtɛ.î-gama
b. (‾‾‾ _ _ - - - - _ _)
c. ngí â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀)ndǐ ma dɔ́kîta .í kama
d. I - <u>emph.</u> am go at doctor the toward
e. I am going to the doctor.

9. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́ngǐma
b. (‾ - _ -)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. what <u>emph.</u> is him on
e. What is wrong with him.

10. a. ngí.ìlò.ì`la
b. (‾ _ _ _ _)
c. ngí .ì ndó n.ì (.ì) la
d. I not like <u>neg.</u> it on
e. I do not like it.

11. a. sɛ́l.ɛ.íjí,gbɛ̂`jɔ́ngɔ
b. (‾ ‾‾‾ ‾ - -)
c. sɛ́l.ɛ .í jí gbɛ̂ (yɛ̀) sɔ́ngɔ
d. banana the this, what is price
e. How much is this banana?

12. a. navól.ɔ́bíyêya?
b. (_ ‾ ‾‾‾ _)
c. navó l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) bí ngêya
d. money <u>emph.</u> is your hand
e. Do you have any money?

13. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bíyêya
b. (‾ ‾‾‾ _)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) bí ngêya
d. what <u>emph.</u> is you possession
e. What do you have?

14. a. bílóngɔ̀.ànavó?
b. (‾‾ _ _ -ˊ)
c. bí ndó ngɔ̀ la navó
d. your desire is for money
e. Do you like money?

15. a. bílóngɔ̀.àsɛ́l.ɛ.í?
b. (‾ ‾ _ _ - - ˊ)
c. bí ndó ngɔ̀ la sɛ́l.ɛ í
d. your desire is for banana the
e. Do you like bananas?

16. a. navógbí́.ìnyáyêya
b. (- ‾ ‾ _ ‾ ‾ _)
c. navó gbí .ì ngí ngêya
d. money none not me hand
e. I have no money.

17. a. bûkugbí.ìnyáyêya
b. (‾ _ ‾ _ ‾‾ _)
c. bûku gbí .ì ngí ngêya
d. book none not my hand
e. I have no book.

18. a. nyálóngɔ̀`la
b. (‾ ‾ _ _)
c. ngí ndó ngɔ̀ (.ì) la
d. my desire is it on
e. I want it. I like it.

19. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ábílóngɔ̀`la
b. (¯ __--- _ _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ bí ndó ngɔ̀ (.ì) la
d. what it-is emph. your desire is it on
e. What do you want?

20. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bílóngɔ̀`la
b. (¯--- _ _)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ bí ndó ngɔ̀ (.ì) la
d. what emph. your desire is it on
e. What do you want?

21. a. mî-mia.áfèl.ě-gɔ-mɛ.înà
b. (¯ --¯_ - ¯ --_)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ fel.ě kɔ́ mà .í ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. trade doing place the is there
e. Where is the trading place?

22. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bílóngɔ̀bí`pé.e
b. (¯--- _¯ --)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ bí ndó ngɔ̀ bí (.ì) pé.e
d. what emph. your desire is you it do
e. What do you want to do?

23. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bílóngɔ̀bí`ngéya
b. (¯--- _¯ --)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ bí ndó ngɔ̀ bí (.ì) ngéya
d. what emph. your desire is you it buy
e. What do you want to buy?

24. a. hindɛ̂.îgbandǐngɔ̀
b. (- ¯ - _ ¯ _)
c. hindâ .í kpandǐ ngɔ̀
d. place the's warm is
e. It is warm here. The weather is hot.

25. a. hindɛ̂.înyámungɔ̀
    b. (_ ¯ ¯ - - _)
    c. hindâ .í nyámu ngɔ̀
    d. place the's badness is
    e. The weather is bad.

26. a. hindɛ̂.înyanděngɔ̀
    b. (_ ¯ ¯ _ ¯ _)
    c. hindâ .í nyandě ngɔ̀
    d. place the's goodness is
    e. The weather is good.

27. a. fól.e.íjînyámungɔ̀
    b. (¯ ¯¯¯ - - _)
    c. fól.o .í jí nyámu ngɔ̀
    d. sun/day the this's badness is
    e. This is a hot day. This is a bad day.

28. a. bímàhúgbê
    b. (¯ _ ¯ ╲)
    c. bí màhú kpê
    d. your area-above look at
    e. Be careful. (Watch over yourself.)

29. a. kɔnɛ̂
    b. (_ ╲)
    c. kɔnɛ̂
    d. please
    e. Please.

30. a. kɔnɛ̂lé!
    b. (_ ¯ -)
    c. kɔnɛ̂ lé
    d. please (ndě?)
    e. (Say?) please!

31. a. lí,bí` pɛ́l.ɛgɔ́kɔ̂.inyáwɛ!
    b. (¯ ¯ - - - - _ - -)
    c. ndǐ bí ` pɛ́l.ɛ kɔ́kɔ̂l.i ngí wɛ
    d. go you do house choose me for
    e. Go find a house for me!

32. a. lǐ,bí`pɛ́l.ɛgɔ́kɔ̂.inyávâ
b. (‾ ‾ – ––– _ – ↘)
c. ndǐ bí ` pɛ́l.ɛ kɔ́kɔ̂l.i ngí fâ
d. go you do house choose me for
e. Go find a house for me!

33. a. heǐ,pànda!
b. (–‾ _ _)
c. heǐ pànda
d. sit properly
e. Sit up straight!

34. a. `maǎvúla
b. (––‾ ‾)
c. (.ì) maǎ fúla
d. it on hurry
e. Hurry (it) up!

35. a. jiǎ,f.lôf.lô
b. (–‾ ‾ ↘)
c. siǎ fû.lo fû.lo
d. walk, quick, quick
e. Walk quickly!

36. a. jiǎ,kaka
b. (–‾ – –)
c. siǎ kaka
d. walk quickly
e. Walk quickly!

37. a. pɛ́l.ɛ.îgbɔw.ǔ,kɔnɛ̂lé!
b. (‾ –‾ _ ‾ _ ‾–)
c. pɛ́l.ɛ .í kpɔw.ǔ kɔnɛ̂ ndě
d. house the shut please ?say
e. Close the door please!

38. a. bílɛ́.îgbɔw.ǔ!
b. (‾‾‾ _ ‾)
c. bí ndá .í kpɔw.ǔ
d. your mouth the close
e. Be quiet! Pipe down!

39. a. wôló!
b. (‾–)
c. ngól.o toǒ
d. ear stand
e. Listen!

40. a. béigbê!
b. (‾‾ ↘)
c. béi kpê
d. here look at
e. Look here!

41. a. wàbéi!
b. (_ ‾‾)
c. pǎ béi
d. come here
e. Come here!

42. a. lew.ényáma!
b. (_ ‾ ‾ ‾)
c. tew.ě ngí ma
d. pass me on
e. Pass by me!

43. a. nyámàhúgbê!
b. (‾ _ ‾ \)
c. ngí màhú kpê
d. my area above look-at
e. Take care of me! Watch over me!

44. a. lúma!
b. (‾ ‾)
c. túma
d. answer
e. Answer! Agree!

45. a. `kpɛ́mbo!
b. (‾ ‾)
c. (.ì) kpɛ́mbo
d. it answer
e. Answer (the question)!

46. a. `kúlu!
b. (‾ ‾)
c. (.ì) kúlu
d. it accept
e. Accept it! Give in!

47. a. `pé.e!
b. (‾ ‾)
c. (.ì) pé.e
d. it do
e. Do it!

48. a. `fèmbɛ́!
b. (_ ‾)
c. (.ì) fé ngí wɛ
d. it give me to
e. Give it to me!

49. a. `pùbéi!
b. (_ ‾‾)
c. (.ì) pú béi
d. it put here
e. Put it here!

50. a. `púnà!
b. (‾ _)
c. (.ì) pú nà
d. it put there
e. Put it there!

51. a. `pù`màhú!
b. (_ _ ‾)
c. (.ì) pú (.ì) màhú
d. it put it above
e. Put it on top of it!

52. a. gbuá béi!
b. (_‾ ‾‾)
c. kpuǎ béi
d. take-out here
e. Get out of here!

53. a. gbuǎnà!
b. (_‾ _)
c. kpuǎ nà
d. take-out there
e. Get out of there!

54. a. hiyěnà!
b. (_‾_)
c. hiyě nà
d. get up there
e. Get up from there!

55. a. hiyě`mahú!
b. (- ‾ _ -)
c. hiyě (.ì) mahú (also hijě)
d. get up it above
e. Get up from it!

56. a. hiyě!
b. (_ ‾)
c. hiyě
d. get up
e. Get up!

57. a. bíâ.ìlé!
b. (‾‾ _-)
c. bí â .ì lé
d. you <u>emph.</u> not is
e. Not you!

58. a. bínɛ̀mâhŭlé.engɔ̀
b. (‾ _‾ _-- _)
c. bí nɛmâ hŭ téw.e ngɔ̀
d. your brain inside cut is
e. You are sharp, clever.

59. a. bí`pù.ìmî`1.ɔ́
b. (‾ __- _)
c. bí (.ì) pú n.ì mî (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. you it put did where is <u>emph.</u>
e. Where did you put it?

60. a. bí`ndà.ìmî`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ --¯ -)
c. bí (.ì) pú n.ì mî (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. you it put did where is emph.
e. Where did you put it?

61. a. mî-mia.ábí`ndá.ìnà
b. (¯ --¯¯ -__)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ bí (.ì) ndá n.ì nà
d. where it-is emph. you it put did there
e. Where did you put it?

62. a. .ìwàn.ì`kpla.á
b. (- - - -¯)
c. .ì pǎ n.ì (.ì) kplang.á
d. he-not come did-not it near
e. He did not come near it.

63. a. .ìyà`kpɔyɔ̂n.ìlɛ̀
b. (- - -¯ __)
c. .ì yà (.ì) kpɔyɔ̂ n.ì lɛ̀
d. he-not yet it finish did yet
e. He has not finished it yet.

64. a. .ìhindɛ̂.íná
b. (- - ¯- -)
c. .ì hindâ .í ná
d. it-is-not place the that
e. It is not at that place.

65. a. .ìyá
b. (_ -)
c. .ì ndǐ ng.a
d. he-past go has
e. He is gone.

66. a. yeégbɛ̂lé
b. (– ‾ ‾ –)
c. yeé gbɛ̂ lé
d. of-kind what is
e. Which one?

67. a. .ì`lolɛ́
b. (– – ‾)
c. .ì (yɛ̀) lolɛ́
d. it is how-many
e. How many?

68. a. lolɛ́
b. (– ‾)
c. lolɛ́
d. how many
e. How many?

69. a. .ìbéîndó
b. (– ‾‾ –)
c. .ì béi ndó
d. it-is-not here abouts (?)
e. It is not here.

70. a. .ìgbɔyɔ̂ng.a
b. (– – ‾ –)
c. .ì kpɔyɔ̂ ng.a
d. he-past finished has
e. He is dead.

71. a. .ìgû.a
b. (– ‾ –)
c. .ì kû ng.a
d. it-past completed has
e. It is done. That is enough.

72. a. .ìgûng.a
b. (– ‾ –)
c. .ì kû ng.a
d. it-past completed has
e. It is done. That is enough.

73. a. .ìgûhan.ì
b. (– ‾ – –)
c. .ì kûha n.ì
d. it-not-past lengthened did-not
e. It is not long.

74. a. mbɛ́
b. (¯)
c. ngí wɛ
d. me for
e. for me

75. a. lúmambɛ́!
b. (¯ ¯ ¯)
c. túma ngí wɛ
d. reply me for
e. Answer for me!

76. a. gbɛ̂va.ábɛ́.ɛ̀lúmambɛ́
b. (¯ _¯¯ _¯¯ ¯)
c. gbɛ̂ fa l.ɔ́ bí .ɛ̀ túma ngí ma
d. what for emph. you will-not answer me for
e. Why wouldn't you answer for me?

77. a. ngí.ìwàn.ì
b. (¯ _ _ _)
c. ngí .ì pǎ n.ì
d. I did-not come past-not
e. I did not come.

78. a. ngí`wǎ.a
b. (¯ _ -)
c. ngí (.ì) pǎ ng.a
d. I past come have
e. I have come.

79. a. ngí`wǎng.a
b. (¯ _ ¯)
c. ngí (.ì) pǎ ng.a
d. I past come have
e. I have come.

80. a. ngí.ìlùman.ì
b. (¯ _ _ _ _)
c. ngí .ì túma n.ì
d. I did-not answer did-not
e. I did not answer.

81. a. ngí`lúma.i`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ - - - -)
c. ngí (.ì) túma n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. I past answered did is emph.
e. I did answer.

82. a. nyágá.ahugbɔ̀yɜ̂ng.ɔ̀
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ _ - _)
c. ngí kál.a hu kpɔ̀yɜ̂ ng.ɔ̀
d. my bone's inside's exhaustion is
e. I am tired.

83. a. nyágá.ahu.ìgbɔyɜ̂n.ì
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ _ _ ¯ -)
c. ngí kál.a hu .ì kpɔyɜ̂ n.ì
d. my bone's insides it-not exhaust past-not
e. I was not tired.

84. a. ngí`lǐ.i`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ _ - -)
c. ngí (.ì) ndǐ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. I did go past is emph.
e. I went.

85. a. ngí`lǐ.i`l.ɔ́nà
b. (¯ _ - - _)
c. ngí (.ì) ndǐ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ nà
d. I past go did is emph. there
e. I went there.

86. a. ngí`lì.i`l.ɔ́nàgbêma
b. (¯ _ - - _ - _)
c. ngí (.ì) ndǐ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ nà kpê ma
d. I did-past go did-past is emph. there see -ing
e. I went there to look.

87. a. ngí̀mɛ.ǐ.ì1.ɔ́
b. (‾ __‾ ‾)
c. ngí ((.ì)) (.ì) mɛn.ǐ n.i (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. I did-past it hear did-past is emph.
e. I heard it.

88. a. mɛndé-mɔmià.àngé
b. (_ ‾ ‾ __ _ ‾)
c. mɛndé mɔ̀ mia (yɛ̀) la ngí
d. Mende person it-is is on me
e. I am a Mende.

89. a. pu-mɔmià.àngé
b. (_ __‾ _ ‾)
c. pu mɔ̀ mia (yɛ̀) la ngí
d. English person it-is is on me
e. I am an Englishman, whiteman.

90. a. amɛ̂lika-mɔmià.àngé
b. (_‾‾_ ___ _ ‾)
c. amɛ̂lika mɔ̀ mia (yɛ̀) la ngí
d. American person it-is is on me
e. I am an American.

91. a. mɛndé-mɔyà.àngé
b. (_ ‾ ‾ __ ‾)
c. mɛndé mɔ̀ yà la ngí
d. Mende person is-not on me
e. I am not a Mende.

92. a. mî-mia.ábígbùǎnà
b. (‾ __‾‾ _‾_)
c. mî mia 1.ɔ́ bí kpuǎ nà
d. where it-is emph. you come out there
e. Where do you come from?

93. a. mɛndé-mɔmia`.àbíe?
b. (_ ¯ ¯ -- _¯¯)
c. mɛndé mɔ̀ mia (yɛ̀) .à bíe
d. Mende person it-is is on you
e. Are you a Mende?

94. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bí`nděn.ì
b. (¯-- - _)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ bí ((.ì)) (.ì) ndě n.ì
d. what <u>emph.</u> you <u>past</u> it say did
e. What did you say?

95. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bí`ndě.ì
b. (¯-- - _)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ bí ((.ì)) (.ì) ndě n.ì
d. what <u>emph.</u> you <u>past</u> it say did
e. What did you say?

96. a. mî-mia.ábí`lǐ.inà
b. (¯ --¯¯ -¯_)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ bí (.ì) ndǐ n.i ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is <u>emph.</u> you <u>past</u> go did is there
e. Where did you go?

97. a. bî-biyɛ.í?
b. (¯ - -¯)
c. bí mbiyɛ̂ .í
d. your name the
e. What is your name?

98. a. bílɛ́.í
b. (¯-¯)
c. bí ndá .í
d. your name the
e. What is your name?

99. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́nà
b. (¯ -_)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. what <u>emph.</u> is there
e. What happened there?

100. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ánà
b. (¯ --¯ _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. what it-is <u>emph.</u> is there
e. What happened there?

101. a. ngí`kpɔyɔ̂ng.a
b. (¯ _ - _)
c. ngí ((.ì)) (.ì) kpɔyɔ̂ ng.a
d. I past it finish have
e. I have finished it.

102. a. bɛ́.ɛ̀gbɛ̂
b. (¯ _╲)
c. bí yɛ̀ gbɛ̂
d. you 'saying' what
e. What did you say?

103. a. kpíndi`wɛ.ɛ̌ng.a
b. (¯ ¯ _ _ -)
c. kpíndi (.ì) pɛl.ɛ̌ ng.a
d. night past stoop has
e. Night has fallen.

104. a. kpíndiwɔ̀.ɔ̌ngɔ̀
b. (¯ ¯ _ - _)
c. kpíndi ngɔl.ɔ̌ ng.ɔ̀
d. night's becoming big is
e. Night has come.

105. a. kpíndiwɛ̀.ɛ̌ngɔ̀
b. (¯ ¯ _ ¯ _)
c. kpíndi pɛl.ɛ̌ ngɔ̀
d. night's falling is
e. Night has come.

106. a. mî-mia.ábí`pú.ìnà
b. (¯ _ _ - ¯ - _ _)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ bí ((.ì)) (.ì) pú n.ì ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. you past it put did is there
e. Where did you put it?

107. a. mî-mia.átínà
b. (¯ _ _ - - _)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ tǐ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. they are there
e. Where are they?

108. a. mî-mia.ábínà
b. (¯ _ _ - - _)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ bí ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. you are there
e. Where are you?

109. a. ngewɔ̂ɔvɛlǐmɛ̀.í
b. (_ ¯ - - ¯ _ -)
c. ngewɔ̂ɔ fɛlǐ mà .í
d. God beg place the
e. church

110. a. wǎ .àkɔlɛ̌.í
b. (¯ _ _ _ -)
c. pǎ la kɔlɔ̌ .í
d. come with book bring
e. Bring the book.

111. a. míândó
b. (¯ ¯ -)
c. míâ ndó
d. it-is yonder
e. over there

112. a. lìmíândó!
b. (_ ¯ ¯ -)
c. ndǐ míâ ndó
d. go it-is yonder
e. Go over there!

113. a. mîgbebá`wǎ
b. (¯ _ ¯ -)
c. mîgbe bí (.à) pǎ
d. when you will come
e. When will you come?

114. a. njɛɛ̌.îwôoma
b. (- - ¯ - _ _)
c. njaǎ .í pôoma
d. water the behind
e. behind the river

115. a. jîgɛ́.àngé
b. (¯ - _ -)
c. jí kɛ́ la ngí
d. this show to me
e. Show me this.

116. a. mɛ̌-han.i.í
b. (_ ¯ - -)
c. mɛ̌ han.ǐ .í
d. eat thing the
e. food

117. a. mɛ̌-hɛ.í
b. (_ ¯ -)
c. mɛ̌ han.ǐ .í
d. eat thing the
e. food

118. a. yemîa
b. (- ¯ _)
c. yemîa
d. who
e. Who is that?

119. a. yemîa`ndě.ìbíma
b. (- ¯ _ ¯ _ ¯ ¯)
c. yemîa ((.ì)) (.ì) ndě n.ì bí ma
d. who past it say did you to
e. Who told you?

120. a. yɔ.ɔ́`ndě.ìbíma
b. (- ¯ - _ ¯ ¯)
c. ye l.ɔ́ ((.ì)) (.ì) ndě n.ì bí ma
d. who emph. past it say did you to
e. Who told you?

121. a. kíagbɛ̂nà
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ _)
c. kía gbɛ̂ nà
d. like what there
e. Like what?

122. a. bí`mɛ̌-hɛyíl.ing.a?
b. (¯ _ ¯ - - /)
c. bí (.ì) mɛ̌ han.ǐ ngíl.i ng.a
d. you past eat thing cook have
e. Have you cooked?

123. a. nâlégbíbílóngɔ̀`la
b. (¯ - - - - _ _)
c. ná lé gbí bí ndó ngɔ̀ (.ì) la
d. that it-is all your desire is it on
e. Whatever you want.

124. a. baágbɛ̀ndɛ̂!
b. (- ¯ _ \)
c. bí á kpɛ̀ndɛ̂
d. you do-not delay
e. Do not delay!

125. a. baálúw.a
b. (_ ¯ ¯ ¯)
c. bí á ndúw.a
d. you do-not fear
e. Do not be afraid!

126. a. wiîmɛ̂!
b. (- ¯ \)
c. piîmɛ̂
d. run
e. Run!

127. a. baáwìîmɛ̂!
b. (- ¯ - ¯ \)
c. bí á pìîmɛ̂
d. you do-not run
e. Do not run!

128. a. baáwèlǎ!
b. (-‾ _ -)
c. bí á pèlǎ
d. you do-not run away
e. Do not run away!

129. a. lɔwû!
b. (- ╲)
c. ndɔwû
d. hide
e. Hide!

130. a. baálɔ̀wû!
b. (-‾ _ ╲)
c. bí á ndɔwû
d. you do-not hide
e. Do not hide!

131. a. baáyɛ̀pɛ̌!
b. (-‾ _ -)
c. bí á njɛpɛ̌
d. you do-not talk
e. Do not talk!

132. a. baá`kpê!
b. (-‾ ╲)
c. bí á (.ì) kpê
d. you do-not it look at
e. Do not look at it!

133. a. baá`pé.e!
b. (-‾ - -)
c. bí á (.ì) pé.e
d. you do-not it do
e. Do not do it!

134. a. baájá.ala!
b. (-‾ ‾ ‾ ‾)
c. bí á já.a ((.ì)) la
d. you do-not touch it on
e. Do not touch it!

135. a. baágbìtǐ`ma!
b. (-‾ _ ‾ -)
c. bí á kpìtǐ (.ì) ma
d. you do-not touch it on
e. Do not touch it!

136. a. nyáâ.á`gbitǐma`ma
b. (‾‾- _ _ ‾ -)
c. ngí â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) kpitǐ ma (.ì) ma
d. I - emph. am touch at it on
e. I am touching it.

137. a. baálò.ǐla!
b. (-¯ _ _ -)
c. bí á ndol.ǐ ((.ì)) la
d. you do-not play it with
e. Do not play with it!

138. a. baálòl.ǐla!
b. (-¯ _ _ -)
c. bí á ndòl.ǐ ((.ì)) la
d. you do-not play it with
e. Do not play with it!

139. a. baáwôl.ó`ma!
b. (- ¯¯ - _)
c. bí á ngól.o toǒ (.ì) ma
d. you do-not ear stand it on
e. Do not listen to it!

140. a. baá`lǐnà!
b. (_¯ - _)
c. bí á (?) ndǐ* nà
d. you do-not (?) go there
e. Do not go there!

141. a. baá`lǐ!
b. (_¯ -)
c. bí á (?) ndǐ
d. you do-not (?) go
e. Do not go!

142. a. baá`lǐkûha-ma!
b. (-¯ - ¯- _)
c. bí á ndǐ kûha mà
d. you do-not go far place
e. Do not go far away!

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*possibly <u>ǹdǐ</u>. In the affirmative and negative imperative there is a downstep before <u>lǐ</u>.

143. a. baá̀ lǐkù.úhu!
b. (-‾ - _ - -)
c. bí á (?) ndǐ kù.ú hu
d. you do-not (?) go home
e. Do not go home!

144. a. baá̀ ngéya!
b. (-‾ - -)
c. bí á (.ì) ngéya
d. you do-not it buy
e. Do not buy it!

145. a. baálúma!
b. (-‾ ‾ ‾)
c. bí á túma
d. you do-not answer
e. Do not answer! Do not agree!

146. a. baálúmà ma!
b. (-‾‾ ‾ -)
c. bí á túma (.ì) ma
d. you do-not agree it on
e. Do not agree to it!

147. a. lúmà ma!
b. (‾ ‾ -)
c. túma (.ì) ma
d. agree it on
e. Agree to it!

148. a. baángǐloǒ!
b. (-‾ ‾ _-)
c. bí á ngǐ toǒ
d. you do-not him send
e. Do not send him!

149. a. baágbě!
b. (-‾ ‾)
c. bí á kpě
d. you do-not stop
e. Do not stop!

150. a. baágbě̀ ma!
b. (-‾ ‾ -)
c. bí á kpě (.ì) ma
d. you do-not stop it on
e. Do not stop it!

151. a. baángǐlól.i!
b. (_‾ _‾ ‾)
c. bí á ngǐ tól.i
d. you do-not him call
e. Do not call him!

152. a. baángǐló.i!
b. (-‾ _--)
c. bí á ngǐ tól.i
d. you do-not him call
e. Do not call him!

153. a. baálàpǐ!
b. (_‾_ -)
c. bí á ndapǐ
d. you do-not fight
e. Do not fight!

154. a. baálápi!
b. (_‾‾‾)
c. bí á ndápi
d. you do-not swim
e. Do not swim!

155. a. baátǐhǔlúwa!
b. (_‾‾ _- -)
c. bí á tǐ hǔ ndúwa
d. you do-not them in frighten
e. Do not frighten them!

156. a. baá`ndéngǐma!
b. (_‾ - _ -)
c. bí á (.ì) ndě ngǐ ma
d. you do-not it say him to
e. Do not tell him!

157. a. baálèmǎ!
b. (-‾_ -)
c. bí á ndèmǎ
d. you do-not forget
e. Do not forget!

158. a. baá`ndě,númugbîma!
b. (_‾ - - - - _)
c. bí á (.ì) ndě númu gbí ma
d. you do-not it say person any on
e. Do not tell anyone!

159. a. baálèmǎ`ma!
b. (_‾ _‾ _)
c. bí á ndemǎ (.ì) ma
d. you do-not forget it on
e. Do not forget it!

160. a. baá`m∈n.ǐ!
b. (_‾ _ -)
c. bí á (.ì) m∈n.ǐ
d. you do-not it hear
e. Do not pay any attention to it!

161. a. baáwôlóngǐma!
b. (-¯¯- _-)
c. bí á ngól.o toǒ ngǐ ma
d. you do-not ear stand him on
e. Do not listen to him!

162. a. baángǐlew.ě!
b. (_¯ ¯ _ -)
c. bí á ngǐ ndew.ě
d. you do-not him beat
e. Do not beat him!

163. a. baángǐle.ě!
b. (-¯ ¯ _ -)
c. bí á ngǐ ndew.ě
d. you do-not him beat
e. Do not beat him!

164. a. baá`mb.lá!
b. (_¯ -)
c. bí á (.ì) mbí.la
d. you do-not it tear
e. Do not tear it!

165. a. baángǐnɛmû!
b. (_¯ ¯ _╲)
c. bí á ngǐ nɛmû
d. you do-not him wound
e. Do not wound him!

166. a. baá`tukpê!
b. (-¯ _ ╲)
c. bí á (.ì) tukpê
d. you do-not it push
e. Do not push it!

167. a. baángǐlukpê!
b. (-¯ ¯ _ ╲)
c. bí á ngǐ tukpê!
d. you do-not him push
e. Do not push him!

168. a. baá`kpatɛ̂!
b. (_¯ -╲)
c. bí á (.ì) kpatɛ̂
d. you do-not it fix
e. Do not fix it!

169. a. baángǐvɛlǐ!
b. (-¯ ¯ _-)
c. bí á ngǐ fɛlǐ
d. you do-not him beg
e. Do not beg him!

170. a. baángǐmaǎnɛnɛ̂!
b. (-¯ ¯_¯_ ╲)
c. bí á ngǐ maǎ nɛnɛ̂
d. you do-not him on beg
e. Do not beg his pardon!

171. a. baáwǎ!
b. (_‾‾)
c. bí á pǎ
d. you do-not come
e. Do not come!

172. a. baáwàbéi!
b. (_‾ _‾‾)
c. bí á pǎ béi
d. you do-not come here
e. Do not come here!

173. a. baá`nyanî!
b. (-‾ _ \)
c. bí á (.ì) nyanî
d. you do-not it destroy
e. Do not destroy it!

174. a. baá`kpúta!
b. (-‾ - -)
c. bí á (.ì) kpúta
d. you do-not it puncture
e. Do not puncture it!

175. a. baá`mbɔ́!
b. (-‾ -)
c. bí á (.ì) mbɔ́
d. you do-not it puncture
e. Do not pierce it!

176. a. baányábɔ́!
b. (_‾‾‾)
c. bí á ngí mbɔ́
d. you do-not me puncture
e. Do not give me an injection!

177. a. baányábô!
b. (_‾‾ \)
c. bí á ngí mbô
d. you do-not me shoot at
e. Do not shoot at me!

178. a. baá`kpê!
b. (_‾ \)
c. bí á (.ì) kpê
d. you do-not it look at
e. Do not look at it!

179. a. baángǐgbê!
b. (_‾ _ \)
c. bí á ngǐ kpê
d. you do-not him look at
e. Do not look at him!

180. a. baángǐgúl.u!
b. (_‾ _- -)
c. bí á ngǐ kúl.u
d. you do-not her embrace
e. Do not embrace her!

181. a. baákúmɛ̀n.ǐ!
b. (_‾‾_ -)
c. bí á kú mɛ̀n.ǐ
d. you do-not odor hear
e. Do not smell it!

182. a. baákúmɛ̀.ǐ!
b. (_‾‾ _-)
c. bí á kú mɛ̀n.ǐ
d. (same as 181.)
e. (same as 181.)

183. a. mîndô-mia.ábî-wɛl.ɛ.înà
b. (‾ - __‾‾ _ _ -_)
c. mîndó mia l.ɔ́ bí pɛ́l.ɛ .í ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. your house the is there
e. Where is your house?

184. a. mîndô-mia.átínà
b. (‾ - ___-_)
c. mîndó mia l.ɔ́ tǐ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. they are there
e. Where are they?

185. a. tâ.ámíândó
b. (‾ --- -)
c. t â l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) míândó
d. he - emph. is there
e. He is over there.

186. a. mî-yaka
b. (‾ __)
c. mî káka
d. what side
e. Where?

187. a. pólon!
b. (‾‾)
c. pólon
d. far away
e. far away

188. a. .ìyámíândó
b. (_‾‾‾ -)
c. .ì ndǐ ng.a míândó
d. he-past go has yonder
e. He has gone over there.

189. a. .ìyámíândó,pólon
b. (_‾‾‾ _ - -)
c. .ì ndǐ ng.a míândó pólon
d. he-past go has yonder far away
e. He has gone very far away.

190. a. wátiyèláma . . .
b. (‾‾ _ - ‾)
c. wáti yèlá ma
d. time one on
e. once upon a time . . .

191. a. yeéwáti.ínâma . . .
b. (-‾‾‾‾‾ ⌣)
c. yeé wáti .í ná ma
d. of all: time the that on
e. At that time . . .

192. a. kpel.ě.ínâma . . .
b. (- - ‾‾ ⌣)
c. kpel.ě .í ná ma
d. time the that at
e. At that time . . .

193. a. fôo.ínâhu . . .
b. (‾--- ⌣)
c. fôo .í ná hu
d. year the that in
e. In that year . . .

194. a. fôo.ínâhu
b. (‾--- _)
c.
(same as 193.)
d.
e. In that year.

195. a. ngí`lǐ.i`l.ɔ́,wɔ́.ɔnà
b. (‾ _‾ - - -_)
c. ngí (.ì) ndǐ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ wɔ́.ɔ nà
d. I past go did is emph. long ago there
e. I went there a long time ago.

196. a. fôo.îyeék̀ɛlɛ̂-mɛ.ínâhu
b. (‾ - - _ - _ - _ - - _)
c. fôo. í yeé kɛlɛ̂ ma .í ná hu
d. year the of all: end place the that in
e. The end of last year . . .

197. a. yeéwáti.î.àwǎ`l.ɔ́
b. (_‾ ‾ ‾ ‾ _‾ _)
c. yeé wáti .í .à pǎ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. of all: time the it-will come is <u>emph.</u>
e. The time will come.

198. a. yeéwáti.î.àwǎ`l.ɔ́,kúna
b. (_‾ ‾ ‾ ‾ _‾ - - -)
c. yeé wáti .í .à pǎ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ kúna
d. of all: time the it-will come is <u>emph.</u> soon
e. The time will come.

199. a. yeéwáti.î`le.ěng.a
b. (_‾ ‾ ‾ ‾ _ _ ‾)
c. yeé wáti .í (.ì) tew.ě ng.a
d. of all: time the <u>past</u> pass has
e. The time has passed.

200. a. wáti.îhugûhangɔ̀
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ _‾ _ _)
c. wáti .í hu kûha ngɔ̀
d. time the in length is
e. It is a long time.

201. a. nyábɛ̀
b. (‾ _)
c. ngí bɛ̀
d. I also
e. even me

202. a. wátiyèégbɛ̂
b. (‾‾ _‾ \)
c. wáti yeé gbɛ̂
d. time of all: what
e. What time is it?

203. a. sukû.ígbɛ̂-mia.ábí`lǐ.inà
b. (_ ¯ - - _ _ - ¯ - ¯ _)
c. sukû .í gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ bí (.ì) ndǐ n.i nà
d. school the what it-is emph. you past go did there
e. What school did you go to?

204. a. mîgbemia.ábí`tâtoǒn.ì
b. (¯ _ _ _ ¯ ¯ - _ - _)
c. mîgbe mia l.ɔ́ bí (.ì) tâtoǒ n.ì
d. when it-is emph. you past begin did
e. When did you begin?

205. a. tâ.á`lìmasukû
b. (¯ ¯ _ _ _ \)
c. t â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ndǐ ma sukû
d. he - emph. is go at school
e. He is going to school.

206. a. mî-mia.ábíyɛ̀nà
b. (¯ _ _ - - _ _)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ bí yɛ̀ nà
d. where it-is emph. you stayed there
e. Where were you?

207. a. ngíyɛ̀béi`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ _ - - -)
c. ngí yɛ̀ béi (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. I stayed here is emph.
e. I was here.

208. a. ngíyɛ̀mánol.ɔ́
b. (¯ _ - - -)
c. ngí yɛ̀ máno l.ɔ́
d. I stayed Mano emph.
e. I was at Mano.

209. a. yemîabî-kamɔ.í`lé
b. (- ‾_‾ __‾ -)
c. yemîa bí kamɔ́ (yɛ̀) lé
d. who your teacher is <u>identity</u>
e. Who is your teacher?

210. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́tíbígàâ.ì`la
b. (‾ --- _‾__)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ tǐ ((.ì)) bí kàâ n.ì (.ì) la
d. what <u>emph.</u> they <u>past</u> you taught did it with
e. What did they teach you (with)?

211. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bí`kaân.ìnà
b. (‾ -- _‾ __)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ bí ((.ì)) (.ì) kaâ n.ì nà
d. what <u>emph.</u> you <u>past</u> it learn did there
e. What did you learn there?

212. a. bí`ló.i`l.ɔ́`la?
b. (‾ -- -_)
c. bí (.ì) ndó n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ (.ì) la
d. you <u>past</u> desire did is <u>emph.</u> it on
e. Did you like it?

213. a. ngí`ló.i`l.ɔ́`la
b. (‾ -- - _)
c. ngí (.ì) ndó n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ (.ì) la
d. I <u>past</u> desire did is <u>emph.</u> it on
e. I liked it.

214. a. ngǐbɛ.ɛ̌ngɔ̀`.ànúm.ugàâlà
b. (‾ _‾ _ _‾ ‾_‾_)
c. ngǐ mbɛl.ɛ̌ ngɔ̀ (yɛ̀) .à núm.u kaâ là
d. his skill is is for person teach -ing
e. He has teaching skill.

215. a. wǎ,mǔwuǔhitɛ̂
b. (¯ ¯ _-_ˋ)
c. pǎ mǔ nguǔ hitɛ̂
d. come we head hang
e. Come and let us discuss this.

216. a. tɔnyâ-miangíˋnděmà
b. (- ¯ __ ¯ - _)
c. tɔnyâ mia ngí ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) ndě mà
d. truth it-is I am it say at
e. I am saying the truth.

217. a. ngábímàǎyîagɛ́ˋ1.ɔ́
b. (¯¯__-_- _)
c. ngí ((.à)) bí maǎ njîa kɛ́ (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. I will you on talk show is emph.
e. I will report you.

218. a. njɛɛ̌.î.àmǔlew.ěˋ1.ɔ́
b. (-- ¯ _-_ - _)
c. njaǎ .í .à mǔ ndew.ě (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. water the will us beat is emph.
e. It will rain on us.

219. a. gbɛ̂-yengemia.ábáˋpé.e
b. (¯ _ _-- ¯¯ - -)
c. gbɛ̂ ngengě mia 1.ɔ́ bí ((.à)) (.ì) pé.e
d. what's work it-is emph. you will it do
e. What kind of work do you do?

220. a. mî-mia.áhâabínà
b. (¯ __--_- _)
c. mî mia 1.ɔ́ hâa bí ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. today you are there
e. Where were you today? (present form, past meaning)

221. a. mî-mia.áwɔ́.ɔbí`yánà,ndakɛ̂.í
b. (¯ _ _ - - - - - _ _ - -)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ wɔ́.ɔ bí (.ì) ndǐ ng.a nà ndakâ .í
d. where it-is emph. recently you past go have there buddy
e. Where have you been friend?

222. a. mî-mia.ábí`lǐmanà
b. (¯ _ _ - - _ - _)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ bí (yɛ̀) ndǐ ma nà
d. where it-is emph. you are go at there
e. Where are you going?

223. a. mî-mia.áhâabí`lǐ.inà
b. (¯ _ _ - - _ - _ - _)
c. mî mia hâa bí (.ì) ndǐ n.i nà
d. where it-is today you past go did there
e. Where did you go today?

224. a. ngí`lì.ihâatɛɛ̌.îhu`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ _ _ - _ _ _ - _ -)
c. ngí (.ì) ndǐ n.i hâa taǎ .í hu (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. I past go did today town the into is emph.
e. I went to town today.

225. a. ngí`tɛɛ̌.îhu`l.ɔ́,hâa
b. (¯ _ _ - _ - - _)
c. ngí (yɛ̀) taǎ .í hu (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ hâa
d. I am town the in is emph. today
e. I was in town today. (present form, past meaning)

226. a. bí`yeélǐn.i
b. (¯ _ - _ -)
c. bí (.ì) yeé ndǐ n.i
d. you past how go did
e. How did you go?

227. a. bí`jiǎ.i`l.ɔ́?
b. (‾ __‾ ‾)
c. bí (.ì) siǎ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. you past walk did is emph.
e. Did you walk?

228. a. ngí`jiǎ.i`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ __‾ ‾)
c. ngí (.ì) siǎ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. I past walk did is emph.
e. I walked.

229. a. fóle.î-mianyágɔ́l.ɛn.ì
b. (‾‾‾ __‾‾‾ _)
c. fólo .í mia ((.ì)) ngí kɔ́l.ɛ n.ì
d. sun the it-is past me tempt did
e. The sun tempted me.

230. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bí`pé.en.ì
b. (‾‾‾ ‾‾ _)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ bí ((.ì)) (.ì) pé.e n.ì
d. what emph. you past it do did
e. What did you do?

231. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bí`pé.e.ìnà
b. (‾‾‾ ‾‾__)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ bí ((.ì)) (.ì) pé.e n.ì nà
d. what emph. you past it do did there
e. What did you do there?

232. a. ngí`felě.îgɔ́.ì`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ __‾‾_ ‾)
c. ngí .ì felě .í kɔ́ n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. I past trade the execute did is emph.
e. I shopped.

233. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bí`ngéya.ì
b. (‾ - -   - - _)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ bí ((.ì)) (.ì) ngéya n.ì
d. what emph. you past it buy did
e. What did you buy?

234. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ábí`ngéya.ì
b. (‾ _ _ ‾ ‾   - - _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ bí ((.ì)) (.ì) ngéya n.ì
d. what it-is emph. you past it buy did
e. What did you buy?

235. a. han.ǐ-gboto
b. (_ _   ‾ _)
c. han.ǐ kpotǒ
d. thing become plentiful
e. many things

236. a. ngí`han.ǐ-gbotoyéya.ì`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ _ _ ‾ _ ‾ ‾ _ -)
c. ngí (.ì) han.ǐ kpotǒ ngéya n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. I past thing plentiful buy did is emph.
e. I bought many things.

237. a. ngí`lì.i`l.ɔ́fèlě-gɔmɛ.í
b. (‾ _ _ ‾ _ _ ‾ - -)
c. ngí (.ì) ndǐ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ felě kɔ́ mà .í
d. I past go did is emph. trade execute place the
e. I went to the market place.

238. a. bâ.á.ìgbân.ì
b. (‾ ‾ _ ‾ _)
c. bâ .í .ì kpâ n.i
d. price the it-not become difficult did
e. Its price is not too high.

239. a. mî-mia.ɔ́hàn.ǐ-ba.âyeǐngɔ̀.îsiàtínà
b. (¯ -- ¯ - - ¯ ¯-¯ _¯ -_¯ _)
c. mî mia 1.ɔ́ hàn.ǐ bâ .í njeǐ ng.ɔ̀ .í
d. where it-is emph. thing price the's lowness is the

c. sià tǐ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. plural they are there
e. Where are the inexpensive things?

240. a. mî-mia.átínà
b. (¯ -- ¯¯ _)
c. mî mia 1.ɔ́ tǐ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. they are there
e. Where are they?

241. a. jíngí`gbuǎn.inàngí`lì.i`1.ɔ́kînswe.í
b. (¯ ¯ __ ¯_ ¯ __ ¯¯ _ -)
c. jí ngí (.ì) kpuǎ n.i nà ngí (.ì) ndǐ n.i
d. then I past exit did there I past go did
e. Then I went to Kingsway to buy a hat.

a. kɔɔ́ngí`bɔlɔyéya
b. (_¯ ¯ _ _¯¯)
c. (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́ kînswe (.í) kɔɔ́ ngí ? bɔlɔ ngéya
d. is emph. Kingsway the in·order that I hat buy
e. (translation above)

242. a. bɔlɛ.ínábíwùmbá?
b. (_ _ ¯¯¯ _ -)
c. bɔlɔ .í ná ((yɛ̀)) bí wùmbá
d. hat the that is you on
e. The hat that is on you?

243. a. `nyanděngɔ̀
b. (_ ¯ _)
c. (.ì) nyandě ngɔ̀
d. it's prettiness is
e. It is pretty.

244. a. `maǎyɛ̂l.ɛngɔ̀
b. (__¯ -_)
c. (.ì) maǎ ngɛ̂l.ɛ ngɔ̀
d. it on funny is
e. It's funny.

245. a. ngí`jɛsîa.i`l.ɔ́,hâa
b. (‾ _‾__ - -_)
c. ngí (.ì) jɛsîa n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ hâa
d. I past walk did is emph. today
e. I wandered about today.

246. a. sâlo.íjî,`maǎjiányáma
b. (‾--‾ _-_--‾)
c. sâlo .í jí (.ì) maǎ siǎ ngí ma
d. orange the this it on sell me to
e. Sell this orange to me.

247. a. bâ.âgbângɔ̀
b. (‾ - - _)
c. bâ .í kpá ngɔ̀
d. price the difficult is
e. The price is high.

248. a. bâ.âmàǎyeǐ,kɔnêlé
b. (‾ - _-_- _ -_)
c. bâ .í màǎ njeǐ kɔnêlé
d. price the on lower please
e. Lower the price please.

249. a. bâ.âmàhúyeǐ,kɔnêlé
b. (‾ - _ -_- _ --)
c. bâ .í màhú njeǐ kɔnêlé
d. price the above lower please
e. Lower the price please.

250. a. mî-mia.átêsɔ.înà
b. (‾ __‾‾ --_)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ têsɔ .í ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. station is there
e. Where is the station?

251. a. mî-mia.átèénîitɛ̂sɔ.înà
b. (¯ --¯-¯¯_¯ --_)
c. mî mia l.ɔ́ tèénîi tɛ̂sɔ .í ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is emph. train station the is there
e. Where is the train station?

252. a. ndě-nga.al.ɔ́bíyêya
b. (_ ¯- ---_)
c. ndé ngà.a l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) bí ngêya
d. child plural emph. is your possession
e. Do you have children?

253. a. tǐ`lolɛ́
b. (¯ _-)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́
d. they are how many
e. How many are they?

254. a. tǐâ.á`lìmasukû?
b. (-¯- ___⌣)
c. tǐ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ndǐ ma sukû
d. they - emph. are go at school
e. Do they go to school?

255. a. nânyànděngɔ̀
b. (¯ _ ¯ _)
c. ná nyàndě ngɔ̀
d. that nice is
e. That is nice.

256. a. mîgbemia.átrèêni.î.àfôobó
b. (¯ _--¯ _¯_¯_¯--)
c. mîgbe mia l.ɔ́ treêni .í .à fôo bó
d. when it-is emph. train the will reach Bo
e. When will the train reach Bo?

257. a. mîgbemia.ámǎ`fôonà
b. (‾ ___‾‾ –__)
c. mîgbe mia 1.ɔ́ mǔ (.à) fôo nà
d. when it-is <u>emph.</u> we will reach there
e. When will we get there?

258. a. kɔnɛ̂lé,`pùtreêni.îhu
b. (–‾– – _‾_‾_)
c. kɔnɛ̂lé (.ì) pú treêni .ì hu
d. please it put train the in
e. Please put it on the train.

259. a. mî-mia.ápɔ̂tɛ.înà
b. (‾ __‾‾––_)
c. mî mia 1.ɔ́ pɔ̂tɛ .í ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. where it-is <u>emph.</u> porter the is there
e. Where is the porter?

260. a. treêni.íjî.àloǒ`1.ɔ́máno?
b. (_‾_‾‾ __‾ ––‾)
c. treêni .í jí .à toǒ (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́ máno
d. train the this will stand is <u>emph.</u> Mano
e. Will this train stop at Mano?

261. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́bíma
b. (‾ –––)
c. gbɛ̂ 1.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) bí ma
d. what <u>emph.</u> is you on
e. What is wrong with you?

262. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́`wé.e.a
b. (‾– –––)
c. gbɛ̂ 1.ɔ́ (.ì) pé.e ng.a
d. what <u>emph.</u> past do has
e. What has happened?

263. gbɛ̂.í
Why?

264. a. bí`lìmamî`1.ɔ́
b. (‾ __‾ –)
c. bí (yɛ̀) ndǐ ma mî (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. you are go at where is <u>emph.</u>
e. Where are you going?

265. a. bí`hìje.a`mî`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ _ _ _ ‾ –)
c. bí .ì hijě ng.a (yɛ̀) mî (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. you past originate have is where is emph.
e. Where did you come from?

266. a. mbéiyàka
b. (‾‾ __)
c. mbéi yàka
d. here direction
e. This way.

267. béiyàka
(see No. 266)

268. a. bí`lǐmalɛ̀?
b. (‾ _ – –)
c. bí (yɛ̀) ndǐ ma lɛ̀
d. you are go at yet
e. Are you going yet?

269. a. wǎ,mǔ`lǐ!
b. (‾ ‾ –)
c. pǎ mǔ (?) ndǐ
d. come we (?) go
e. Let's go!

270. a. bɛ́.ɛ̀gbûla`ma
b. (‾ _ ‾ _ _)
c. bí .ɛ̀ kpûla (.ì) ma
d. you will-not miss it on
e. You will not miss it.

271. a. gbéngimìangí`wǎn.i
b. (‾ ‾ – – ‾ _ ‾)
c. gbéngi mia ngí (.ì) pǎ n.i
d. yesterday it-is I past come did
e. I came yesterday.

272. a. mîgbebá`lǐ
b. (‾ _ ‾ –)
c. mîgbe bí (.à) ndǐ
d. when you will go
e. When will you go?

273. a. mîgbemia.ábá`lǐ
b. (¯ _ _ _ - ¯ -)
c. mîgbe mia l.ɔ́ bí (.à) ndǐ
d. when it-is emph. you will go
e. When will you go?

274. a. wǎ,mǔhààâkɛ.îsiàhǔgbatê!
b. (¯ ¯ _¯ - - _ _ ¯ _\)
c. pǎ mǔ haâka .í sià hǔ kpatê
d. come we load the plural in fix
e. Come, let's fix the loads!

275. a. lǐ,bí`ngengě-bla.alól.i
b. (¯ ¯ _ _ ¯ - - -)
c. ndǐ bí ` ngengě bla.a tól.i
d. go you do work person call
e. Go call the workmen.

276. a. tǐâ.á`wǎma
b. (-¯- _ -)
c. tǐ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) pǎ ma
d. they - emph. are come at
e. They are coming.

277. a. àwǎ!
b. (_ -)
c. à pǎ
d. plural come
e. Everyone come!

278. a. wǔkpɛ́l.ɛ.ɛ́
b. (_ ¯ - ¯)
c. wǔ kpɛ́l.ɛ .í
d. you(pl.) all the
e. all of you

279. a. wǔkpɛ́l.ɛ.ɛ́,àwǎ!
b. (_ ¯ - ¯ _ -)
c. wǔ kpɛ́l.ɛ .í à pǎ
d. you all the plural come
e. Come, all of you!

280. a. wŭ-ve.enjɔ̀,àwă
b. (_ ‾ _ __‾)
c. wŭ fel.ĕ ngɔ̀ à pă
d. you(<u>pl.</u>) two all <u>plural</u> come
e. Come, both of you!

281. a. bíâyése!
b. (‾‾ ––)
c. bí â yése
d. you - first
e. You first!

282. a. bíâyése,lǐ!
b. (‾‾– – ‾)
c. bí â yése ndǐ
d. you - first go
e. You go first!

283. a. lǐ,bíâyése!
b. (‾ ‾‾ – –)
c. ndǐ bí â yése
d. go you - first
e. You go first!

284. a. lǐ,bí`núm.u-wekalól.i!
b. (‾ ‾ – ‾ – _– –)
c. ndǐ bí (?) núm.u peka tól.i
d. go you (?) person other call
e. Go call another person!

285. a. .ìwă.a
b. (_ _‾)
c. .ì pă ng.a
d. he-<u>past</u> come has
e. He has come.

286. a. àmŭjìăkaka!
b. (_‾_‾– –)
c. à mŭ siă kaka
d. <u>plural</u> we walk a lot
e. Let's walk a lot!

287. a. àmŭjiă,f.lôf.lô
b. (_‾ _‾ ＼ ＼)
c. à mŭ siă fû.lo fû.lo
d. <u>plural</u> we walk fast fast
e. Let us walk fast.

288. a. haâkɛ.îlàbígbàkîma!
b. (_‾ ––_‾ _–_)
c. haâka .í ndá ((yɛ̀)) bí kpàkî ma
d. load the put is your shoulder on
e. Put the load on your shoulder!

289. a. haâkɛ.îlɛ̀bíwùmbá!
b. (-¯ -¯ _- _ -)
c. haâka .í tɛ́ ((yɛ̀)) bí ngùmbá
d. load the lift is your top
e. Lift the load onto your head!

290. a. `tɛ̀bíwùmbá
b. (_ ¯_ -)
c. (.ì) tɛ́ ((yɛ̀)) bí ngùmbá
d. it lift is your top
e. Put it on top of you.

291. a. lɔ̀ongĭgulɔ́!
b. (_- ¯ _ -)
c. toŏ ngĭ kulɔ́
d. stand his front
e. Stand in front of him!

292. a. jiăpanda!
b. (-¯ _ -)
c. siă pànda
d. walk carefully
e. Be careful!

293. a. má`lɔ́
b. (¯ -)
c. mŭ (.à) tɔ́
d. we will see
e. Goodbye.

294. a. ngewɔ̂ɔ,.í`ndó`ma
b. (- ¯_ ¯ - _)
c. ngewɔ̂ɔ .í (?) ndó (.ì)ma
d. God that he (?) desire it on
e. God willing . . .

295. a. pelĕ.înyámungɔ̀
b. (_- ¯ - - _)
c. pelĕ .í nyámu ngɔ̀
d. road the's badness is
e. The road is bad.

296. a. pelĕ.íjînyámungɔ̀
b. (-- ¯¯ - - _)
c. pelĕ .í jí nyámu ngɔ̀
d. road the this badness is
e. This road is bad.

297. a. kpɔ.ĭ-yɛ.í
b. (-- ¯--)
c. kpɔl.ĭ njaă .í
d. drink water the
e. drinking water

298. a. njɛɛ̌.îjúsungɔ̀
b. (--¯-- _)
c. njaă .í súsu ngɔ̀
d. water the deep is
e. The river is deep.

299. a. ngá`lápi`l.ɔ́ngí`té.e
b. (¯ -- - - _-)
c. ngí (.à) ndápi (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ngí (.ì) téw.e
d. I will swim is <u>emph.</u> that I it cross
e. I will swim across it.

300. a. ngá`lapǐ`l.ɔ́ngí`té.e
b. (¯ _¯ - ¯ _-)
c. ngí (.à) ndapǐ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ngí (.ì) téw.e
d. I will try is <u>emph.</u> that I it cross
e. I will try to cross it.

301. a. ngá`hŭgɓɔ`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ _¯_ -)
c. ngí (.à) ((.ì)) hŭ kɓɔ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. I will it in test is <u>emph.</u>
e. I will test it.

302. a. ngí.ì`hŭgɔ́.ɔ.ɔ̀
b. (¯ _ _¯¯_)
c. ngí .ì (.ì) hŭ kɔ́l.ɔ n.ì
d. I not it in know did
e. I don't know.

303. a. mŭ`pé.e,mŭ`lǐ
b. (¯ --- _)
c. mŭ (.ì) pé.e mŭ (ʔ) ndǐ
d. we it do that (?) go

304. a. ngá`lǐ`l.ɔ́,ngí`tɔ́
b. (¯ - _ - _)
c. ngí (.à) ndǐ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ngí (.ì) tɔ́
d. I will go is <u>emph.</u> that I it see
e. I will go see it.

305. a. gbɛɛ́ngí`lǐ,ngí`tɔ́
b. (– ‾ ‾ – – –)
c. gbɛɛ́ ngí (?) ndǐ ngí (.ì) tɔ́
d. wait I (?) go that it see
I
e. Permit me to go see it.

306. a. nyáwòpó!
b. (‾ _ –)
c. ngí popó
d. me carry
e. Carry me on your back!

307. a. hèinyágbàkîma
b. (– – ‾ _ ‾ _)
c. heǐ nyá kpàkî ma
d. sit my shoulders onto
e. Sit on my shoulders.

308. a. bígá.ahuhàǎ?
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ ‾ _ ╱)
c. bí kál.a hu haǎ
d. your bone's interior dead
e. Are you tired?

309. a. bí`gbahâ.a?
b. (‾ _ ‾ ╱)
c. bí (.ì) kpahâ ng.a
d. you past tire have
e. Are you tired?

310. a. bígá.ahugbɔ̀yɔ̂ngɔ̀?
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ ‾ _ ‾ ╱)
c. bí kál.a hu kpɔ̀yɔ̂ ngɔ̀
d. your bone's interior's exhaustion is
e. Are you tired?

311. a. kpáw.i.înyámungɔ̀
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ – – _)
c. kpáw.u .í nyámu ngɔ̀
d. bridge the badness is
e. The bridge is bad.

312. a. kpáw.i.înyànǐngɔ̀
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ _ ‾ _)
c. kpáw.u .í nyànǐ ngɔ̀
d. bridge the's spoiling is
e. The bridge is spoiled.

313. a. kpáw.ugbí.ìnà
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ _ _)
c. kpáw.u gbí .ì nà
d. bridge any is-not there
e. There is no bridge there.

314. a. mǔ`yamǎ.i`1.ɔ́
b. (‾ _ _ ‾ -)
c. mǔ (.ì) ngamǎ n.i (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. we past return did is emph.
e. We returned.

315. a. mǔ`yama.i`1.ɔ́mîandó
b. (‾ _ _ _ - - - -)
c. mǔ (.ì) ngama n.i (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) mîandó
d. we past return did is emph. is yonder
e. We returned to that place yonder.

316. a. .ìgbɔyɔ̂.a 317. .ìgbɔyɔ̂ng.a
b. (- - ‾ _) (see No. 316)
c. .ì kpɔyɔ̂ ng.a
d. he-past die has
e. He is dead.

318. a. .ì`kpɔyɔ̂.a 319. .ì`kpɔyɔ̂ng.a
b. (- - ‾ _) (see No. 318)
c. .ì (.ì) kpɔyɔ̂ ng.a
d. he-past it finish has
e. He has finished it.

320. a. nyáâ.ángǐgulɔ́gbêma
b. (‾ ‾ - - _ - - _)
c. nyá â 1.ɔ́ ngǐ kulɔ́ kpê ma
d. I - emph. his in front look at on
e. I am expecting him.

321. a. tâ.á̀kpa-yialémà
b. (‾ ‾ _ _ _ ‾ _)
c. t â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) kpa njiă ndé ma
d. he - emph. is debt word say at
e. He is collecting the debt.

322. a. tâ.á̀ku.úhu
b. (‾ ‾ _ ‾ ‾)
c. t â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ku.úhu
d. he - emph. is home-in
e. He is at home.

Slide One: The Vultures

1. a. àmŭyɛpɛ̌lɛ̂ɛ,
b. (-‾_-‾‿)
c. à mŭ njɛpɛ̌ lɛ̂ɛ
d. let us talk for a while
e. Let us talk for a while...

2. a. ndáloongɔ̀han.ǐ.ínâsiàma,
b. (‾ -- -- - ‾‾-_ ‿)
c. ndá toŏ ngɔ̀ han.ǐ .í ná sià ma
d. interest stand is thing those onto
e. ...with our attention directed to those things...

3. a. mŭ̀tɔ́màmŭgu.lɔ́̀nɛnɛ.ɛ́nâhu
b. (‾ ‾ _‾ _‾ _ _ ‾‾ _)
c. mŭ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma mŭ ku.lɔ́ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í ná hu
d. we are it see at our front is picture that in
e. ...we see in front of us in that picture.

4. a. mŭâ.á̀ŋɔnǐngà.alɔ́mà̀pel.ě.îma
b. (-‾- _‾ _ _‾_ _ _ ‾_)
c. mŭ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ŋɔnǐ ngà.a tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) pel.ě .í ma
d. we - emph. are bird pl. see at is road the on
e. We see birds on the road.

5. a. ŋɔnǐ.íjîsià-miamátǐlól.i.àyubɛ́.í
b. (-- ‾‾ ‾_ --‾_‾ ‾ __ --)
c. ŋɔnǐ .í jí sià mia mŭ ((.à)) tǐ tól.i .à yubá .í
d. bird these it-is we will them call by vulture the
e. We call these birds yebɛ́.í (vultures).

6. a. tǐndăyengě.î-mia
b. (- ‾ _ _ ‾ - -)
c. tǐ ndă ngengě .í mia
d. their own work the it-is
e. Their work...

7. a. `.àpel.ěmaǎgolělɛ̀.í
   b. (_ _ ‾_‾ _‾ _ -)
   c. (yɛ̀) .à pel.ě maǎ kolě là .í
   d. is (as) road on clean-ing the
   e. ...is cleaning the road.

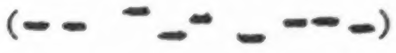
8. a. mɔtó.î`lew.ěng.a`.á
   b. (-‾‾ _ _ ‾ -)
   c. mɔtó .í (.ì) tew.ě ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
   d. vehicle the past pass has is emph.
   e. After a vehicle has passed...

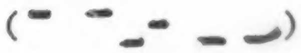
9. a. íná.ìjìa.i`l.ɔ́tɛ́ma,
   b. (‾‾ ____ ‾‾‾)
   c. íná .ì siǎ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ tɛ́ ma
   d. if it-past drive did is emph. chicken over
   e. ...if it has run over a chicken...

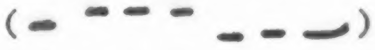
10. a. .ɔ̀fúl.u-han.igbíma,
   b. (_‾ ‾ ‾ _ - ‾)
   c. .ɔ̀ fúl.u han.ǐ gbí ma
   d. or living thing any over
   e. ...or any living thing...

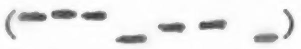
11. a. ŋɔnǐ.íjîsiàtǎ`gomɛ̂`l.ɔ́
   b. (_ _ ‾‾ -_‾ _‾ -)
   c. ŋɔnǐ .í jí sià tǐ (.à) komɛ̂ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
   d. bird these they will gather is emph.
   e. ...these birds will gather...

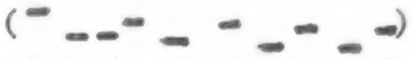
12. a. tǐ`tɛ́hàǎngɔ́.íjî, (no fall)
   b. (‾ ‾__ --- -)
   c. tǐ (?̀) tɛ́ haǎ ngɔ̀ .í jí
   d. they chicken dead is this
   e. see # 13

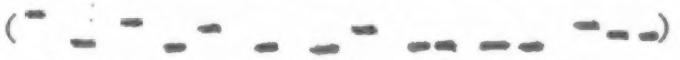
13. a. .ɔ̀han.ǐwaǎngɔ̀.íjîmɛ̌
    b. 
    c. .ɔ̀ han.ǐ paǎ ngɔ̀ .í jí mɛ̌
    d. or thing kill is this eat
    e. ...(and) they will eat the dead chicken or killed thing.

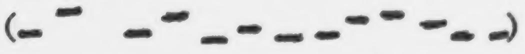
14. a. lɔ́w.ɔtɛ̀ɛ̂ngama,
    b. 
    c. lɔ́w.ɔ tɛɛ̂nga ma
    d. day some on
    e. On some days...

15. a. tǐgbé.egbí.ɛ̀yɛ̀`hu,
    b. 
    c. tǐ kpé.e gbí .ɛ̀ yɛ̀ (.ì) hu
    d. their concern any will-not be it in
    e. ...they will be unconcerned...

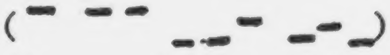
16. a. ínábɛ́mɔ̀tólóngɔ̀
    b. 
    c. íná bɛ́ mɔtó ndó ngɔ̀
    d. if even vehicle desire is
    e. ...even if a vehicle is about to...

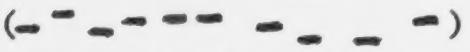
17. a. .íjìatǐwumbá.ɔ̀tǐmahú
    b. 
    c. .í siǎ tǐ ngumbá .ɔ̀ tǐ mahú
    d. it drive them onto or them over
    e. ...run onto them or over them.

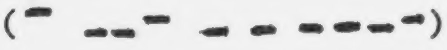
18. a. nâlèk.ĕtǐlóngɔ̀`latâ-mia`.àtǐ-huɛ.í
    b. 
    c. ná lèk.ĕ tǐ ndó ngɔ̀ (.ì) la t â mia (yɛ̀) .à tǐ huǎ .í
    d. that only their desire is it on it - it-is is for their meat the
    e. The only thing they care about is their meat.

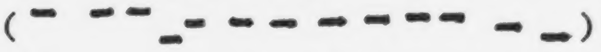
19. a. àmŭ gbĕlɛ́nà.áŋɔ̀nĭ.íjîsiâma
b. 
c. à mŭ kpĕ lɛ́nà.á ŋɔnĭ .í jí sià ma
d. let us leave for now bird there on
e. Let us leave these birds for now.

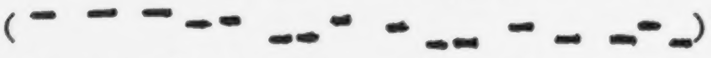
Slide Two: Building A Mende House

1. a. pɛ́l.ɛ.î-miatĭ\`toŏmà
b. 
c. pɛ́l.ɛ .í mia tĭ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) toŏ ma
d. house the it-is they are it build at
e. They are building a house.

2. a. haâkɛ.ínábí\`tɔ́mà\`ku.lɔ́,
b. 
c. haâka .í ná bí ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma (.ì) ku.lɔ́
d. load that you are it see at it in-front-of
e. The load which you see in front of it...

3. a. tâ-miamă\`tòl.i.àfoni.í
b. 
c. t â mia mŭ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à foni .í
d. it - it-is we will it name with grass the
e. ...we call it elephant grass.

4. a. pɛ́l.ɛ.îyeékpásakpásanábí\`tɔ́mà
b. 
c. pɛ́l.ɛ .í yeé kpása ná bí ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma
d. house the the one bare that you are it see at
e. That bare house you are looking at...

5. a. pɛ́l.ɛ-ninɛ.î-miatĭ\`tâtoŏng.a.à\`toŏlà
b. 
c. pɛ́l.ɛ nină .í mia tĭ ((.ì)) (.ì) tâtoŏ ng.a .à (.ì) toŏ là
d. house new the it-is they <u>past</u> it begin have with it build -ing
e. ...is a new house which they have begun building.

6. a. bíyéjamabá`yeépɛ́.ɛ.íjî-nyikɔlɔ́`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ - - - - _ - - - - - _ _ ¯ -)
c. bí ngéja ma bí (.à) yeé pɛl.ɛ .í jí nyikɔ tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. your right on you will the house this kind see is emph.
e. On your right you will see a house of this kind...

7. a. nátǐ`kpɔyɔ̂ng.a.à`toǒlà
b. (¯ - _ ¯ _ _ _ ¯ _)
c. ná tǐ ((.ì)) (.ì) kpɔyɔ̂ ng.a .à (.ì) toǒ là
d. which they past it finish have with it build-ing
e. ...which they have finished building.

8. a. gbɛ̂-mia.átǎ`pé.e.àfoni.ínâ (no fall)
b. (¯ _ _ ¯ ¯ - - _ _ _ ¯ ¯)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) pé.e .à foni .í ná
d. what it-is emph. they will it do with grass that
e. What will they do with that grass...

9. a. `loǒn.ì`pɛ́l.ɛ-ninɛ.ínâgu.lɔ́
b. (- ¯ _ - - - _ _ _ _ -)
c. (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) pɛ́l.ɛ ninǎ .í ná ku.lɔ́
d. past stand did is house new that in-front
e. ...standing in front of that new house?

10. a. tǎ`tɛ̀`pɛ́l.ɛ.îmahú`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ _ - - ¯ _ - _)
c. tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) tɛ́ (yɛ̀) pɛ́l.ɛ .í mahú (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. they will it raise is house the above is emph.
e. They will put it above (thatch) the house...

11. a. kíâlépù-bla.a.â.átǎ`pâni.îlɛ̀làpɛ́l.ɛ.îmahú
b. (¯ ¯ - _ _ _ ¯ - - - _ _ _ _ ¯ - ¯ _ -)
c. kíâlé pù bla.a .í l.ɔ́ tǐ (.à) pâni .í tɛ́ là pɛ́l.ɛ .í mahú
d. like English people the emph. they will iron the raise(like)house the above
e. ...like the English thatch with corrugated iron.

12. a. mɛndé-bla.a.átǐ-wɛl.ɛloǒlɛ̀.î
b. (- ¯ ¯ - - _ ¯ _ _ ¯ - -)
c. mɛndé bla.a .í tǐ pɛ́l.ɛ toǒ là .í
d. Mende people the their house build-ing the
e. The Mende's house building...

13. a. .ànungâ.a-gbotohǔwú
b. (_ _ ¯ - - - - ¯)
c. .à nungâ.a kpotǒ hǔ ngú
d. it-will people many in mix-up
e. ...confuses many people.

14. a. gbɛvatǐ.ìlà.ì`lakɛ̀pɛ́l.ɛíjî-bonda,
b. (_ - ¯ - - - - - ¯ - - ¯ _ _)
c. gbɛva tǐ .ì ndá n.ì (.ì) la kɛ̀ pɛ́l.ɛ .í jí bonda
d. because they not believe not it on that house this type
e. Because they do not believe that this type of house...

15. a. .àgú`l.ɔ́.íhà.amɛ̌.îhǔvôo
b. (_ ¯ - - _ _ _ ¯ _ - _)
c. .à kú (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ .í ha.amǎ .í hǔ fôo
d. it-will be able is <u>emph.</u> that-it rainy season the in survive
e. ...will be able to survive the rainy season.

16. a. ngúl.i.ínâsiàtǐyil.ǐngɔ̀.îvúl.ipànda
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ - _ - _ ¯ _ ¯ - - _ _)
c. ngúl.u .í ná sià tǐ ngil.ǐ ngɔ̀ .í vúl.u panda
d. stick those they tie are the very well
e. Those sticks are tied very well.

17. a. kíâlénúm.u.àlɔntimɛ.îwumbǔ
b. (¯ ¯ - - ¯ _ _ _ _ ¯ _ -)
c. kíâlé núm.u .à lɔntima .í ngumbǔ
d. like person will nail the take
e. Like a person takes a nail...

18. a. .í`kpàkpangúl.i.îhu
b. (¯ - - ¯ ¯¯ _)
c. .í (.ì) kpákpa ngúl.u .í hu
d. that-he it hammer wood the into
e. ...and hammers it into wood.

19. a. tǐ`kpɔyɔ̂ng.a`.á.àjîwé.elà,
b. (¯ _¯ _ ¯ _¯- - _)
c. tǐ ((.ì)) (.ì) kpɔyɔ̂ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ .à jí pé.e la
d. they past it finish have is emph. with this do -ing
e. When they have finished doing this...

20. a. kɛ̀tǐ`foni.îwumbǔng.a
b. (_¯ --¯- - ¯)
c. kɛ̀ tǐ (.ì) foni .í ngumbǔ ng.a
d. then they past grass the take have
e. ...they take the grass...

21. a. tǐ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îmaǎlɛ́la
b. (¯ - -- __- -)
c. tǐ (?̀) pɛ́l.ɛ .í maǎ tɛ́ ((.ì)) la
d. they house the on lift it with
e. ...they thatch the house with it.

22. a. tɛɛ̂nga,tǎ`tɛ́`l.ɔ́hèǐma`saw.áhèǐma`ná.âni
b. (-¯ _ ¯ - --- ¯ _ ¯-- ¯ - - _)
c. tɛɛ̂nga tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) tɛ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ heǐma (yɛ̀) saw.á, ná.âni
d. perhaps they will it lift is emph. times is three, four
e. Perhaps they will thatch it three or four times.

23. a. tǐ`laǎn.ìtǐnyɔ̂nyɔ̂mahú
b. (¯ _¯ -- ¯ - _ -)
c. tǐ (.ì) ndá n.ì tǐ nyɔ̂nyɔ̂ mahú
d. they past lay did their one another above
e. They are placed one atop the other...

24. a. kɔɔ́.íyɛ̀kpɔ́tukpɔ́tu
    b. (-¯¯_ ¯¯¯¯)
    c. kɔɔ́ .í yɛ̀ kpɔ́tu
    d. so that it be thick
    e. ...so that it will be thick.

25. a. gbɛvanjɛɛ̌.î`wǎng.a`.á
    b. (_ _ _ _¯ _ ¯ -)
    c. gbɛva njaǎ .í (.ì) pǎ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
    d. because rain the <u>past</u> come has is <u>emph.</u>
    e. Because when it rains...

26. a. íná.ìkpɔ̀tukpɔtun.ì,
    b. (¯¯ _ _ _ _ _ _)
    c. íná .ì kpɔ́tu n.ì
    d. if it-not thick <u>neg.</u>
    e. ...if it is not thick...

27. a. .àlew.ě`l.ɔ́`la.àpiîmɛ̂.í
    b. (- - ¯ - _ _ _¯ - -)
    c. .à tew.ě (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ (.ì) la .à piîmɛ̂ .í
    d. it-will pass is <u>emph.</u> it with (in) running the
    e. ...it will run right through it.

<u>Slide Three: A Bridge On The Farm</u>

1. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ámǔ`tɔ́mà`nɛnɛ.ɛ́jîhu
    b. (¯ _ _ ¯ ¯ - _ _ _ ¯ ¯ _)
    c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ mǔ (yɛ̀) tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
    d. what it-is <u>emph.</u> we are see at is picture this in
    e. What do we see in this picture?

2. a. nungâ.a.âtaákpàl.ɛ̌.í
    b. (- ¯ - - _ - _ _ -)
    c. nungâ.a .í taá kpal.ǎ .í
    d. people the and farm the
    e. People and the farm.

3. a. nungâ.a.átǐ`lolɛ́tǐ`nɛnɛ.ɛ́jîhu
b. (- ‾ - - - _ - - _ _ - - _)
c. nungâ.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́ tǐ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. people the they are how many they are picture this in
e. How many people are in this picture?

4. a. nungâ.a.átǐ`ná.âni
b. (- ‾ - - - - - _)
c. nungâ.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) ná.âni
d. people the they are four
e. There are four people.

5. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ánùngɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`pé.emà
b. (‾ _ _ - _ ‾ - - - - _ ‾ - - _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pé.e ma
d. what it-is emph. people these they are it do at
e. What are these people doing?

6. a. tǐ`jìama`kpáwu.îma`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ _ _ _ - - ‾ _ -)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) siǎ ma (yɛ̀) kpáwu .í ma (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. they are walk at is bridge the on is emph.
e. They are walking onto the bridge.

7. a. gbɛ̂-mia.átǐ`jiǎma`ma
b. (‾ _ _ ‾ ‾ _ _ ‾ _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ tǐ (yɛ̀) siǎ ma (.ì) ma
d. what it-is emph. they are walk at it on
e. What are they walking on?

8. a. tǐ`jìama`kpáwu.îma`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ _ _ _ - - ‾ _ -)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) siǎ ma (yɛ̀) kpáwu .í ma (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. they are walk at is bridge the on is emph.
e. They are walking onto the bridge.

9. a. gbȇ-mia.átǐgu.lɔ́
b. (¯ --¯¯_ -)
c. gbȇ mia l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ ku.lɔ́
d. what it-is emph. is them in-front
e. What is in front of them?

10. a. kpal.ɛ̌.î-mia.átǐgu.lɔ́
b. (- -¯ --¯¯_ -)
c. kpal.ǎ .í mia l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ ku.lɔ́
d. farm the it-is emph. is them in-front
e. The farm is in front of them.

11. a. gbȇ-mia.átǐbu
b. (¯ --¯_-)
c. gbȇ mia l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ mbu
d. what it-is emph. is them under
e. What is under them?

12. a. kpóli.î-mia.átǐbu
b. (¯ ¯¯ --¯_-)
c. kpóli .í mia l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ mbu
d. stream the it-is emph. is them under
e. The stream is under them.

13. a. gbȇ-mia.átǐgɔw.ɔ̌ma
b. (¯ --¯¯_ _ ¯)
c. gbȇ mia l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ kɔw.ɔ̌ ma
d. what it-is emph. is their left on
e. What is on their left?

14. a. mbaǎ-vale.î-mia.átǐgɔw.ɔ̌ma
b. (-- ¯-- --¯¯_ _ -)
c. mbaǎ fále .í mia l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ kɔw.ɔ̌ ma
d. rice sprout the it-is emph. is their left on
e. There are rice sprouts on their left.

15. a. gbɛ̂-mia.á`loǒn.ì`kpal.ɛ̌.îhu
b. (¯ --¯ -¯ _ _ - ¯_)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) kpal.ǎ .í hu
d. what it-is emph. past stand did is farm the in
e. What is standing on the farm?

16. a. mbaǎ-vale.îtaátɔ́kpɔ-wul.i.îsià-mia,
b. (-- ¯--_-- - ¯ --_ _--)
c. mbaǎ fále .í taá tɔ́kpɔ ngúl.u .í sià mia
d. rice sprout the and palm tree the pl. it-is
e. There are rice sprouts and palm trees...

17. a. tǐ`loǒn.ì`kpal.ɛ̌.îhu
b. (¯ -¯ _ _ - ¯_)
c. tǐ (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) kpal.ǎ .í hu
d. they past stand did is farm the in
e. ...standing on the farm.

18. a. tɔ́kpɔ-wul.u`lolɛ́-mia.á
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ _ _¯¯ _¯)
c. tɔ́kpɔ ngúl.u (yɛ̀) lolɛ́ mia l.ɔ́
d. palm tree is how many it-is emph.
e. How many palm trees...

19. a. mǔ`tɔ́mà`kpal.ɛ̌.íjîhu
b. (¯ ¯ _ _ - ¯¯ _)
c. mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) kpal.ǎ .í jí hu
d. we are it see at is farm this in
e. ...do we see on this farm?

20. a. tɔ́kpɔ-wul.u`ná.âni-mia,
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ _ ¯¯ _ _-)
c. tɔ́kpɔ ngúl.u (yɛ̀) ná.âni mia
d. palm tree is four it-is
e. There are four palm trees...

21. a. mǔ`tɔ́mà`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
b. (¯ ¯ _ _ _ ¯ ¯ _)
c. mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. we are it see at is picture this in
e. ...(that) we see in this picture.

22. a. gbɛ̂-mia.á`nɛnɛ.íjîhugbɔ̀ma,
b. (¯ -- ¯ -- ¯¯ _ _ _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu gbɔma
d. what it-is emph. is picture this in again
e. What is in this picture...

23. a. náhî,mǔ.ùyàndágɛ́n.ì
b. (¯ \ ¯ -- -- _)
c. náhî mǔ .ì yà ndá kɛ́ n.ì
d. which we not yet name show neg.
e. ...that we have not yet named?

24. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.îsiàtǐyéjama,
b. (- ¯ - - - _ _ - - ¯)
c. nungâ.a .í sià tǐ ngéja ma
d. people the pl. their right on
e. On the right of the people...

25. a. mǔâ.á`ndɔgbɔ̌.îlɔ́mà
b. (-¯ - _ _ ¯- _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ndɔgbɔ̌ .í tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. is bush the see at
e. ...we see the bush.

26. a. tǐgu.lɔ́,kûhama,
b. (¯ _ - ¯ _ _)
c. tǐ ku.lɔ́ kûha ma
d. them in-front long on
e. Far in front of them...

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27. a. mǎ`tɔ́kpɔ-wul.u`wɛ́-ita.ɔ̀wɔ́-fłagba.â`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ - - - _ - - _^_- - _ ‾ -)
c. mǔ (.à) tɔ́kpɔ ngúl.u (yɛ̀) wɛ́-ita .ɔ̀ wɔ́-fla kpaw.â (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we will palm tree is six or seven count is <u>emph.</u>
e. ...we count six or seven palm trees.

28. a. han.ǐ-yakagbí.ìnàmaǎhoǐngɔ̀,
b. (_ _ ‾ - ‾ _ _ _‾_- _)
c. han.ǐ kaka gbí .ì nà maǎhoǐ ngɔ̀
d. thing else any not there fitting is
e. There is nothing else fitting...

29. a. mǔyɛpɛ̌`ma
b. (‾ _‾ _)
c. mǔ njɛpɛ̌ (.ì) ma
d. we talk it on
e. ...for us to talk about.

Slide Four: The Farm

1. a. kpa.ǎ.â-mia`.àjímǔ`tɔ́mà
b. (_ _‾ - - _‾ ‾ - _)
c. kpal.ǎ .í mia (yɛ̀) .à jí mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma
d. farm the it-is is as this we are it see at
e. We are looking at the farm.

2. a. haâkɛ.ínâsiàkínimǔ`tɔ́màkpa.ǎ.âhu,
b. (-‾ - - - -_- - - - _ _ - ‾ _)
c. haâka .í ná sià kíni mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma kpal.ǎ .í hu
d. thing those all we are it see at farm the on
e. All those things we see on the farm...

3. a. tǐâ-miamǔlóngɔ̀mǔyɛpɛ̌,
b. (-‾ - - -‾ _ - _ -)
c. tǐ â mia mǔ ndó ngɔ̀ mǔ yɛpɛ̌
d. they - it-is our desire is that-we talk
e. It is they which we want in our talking...

4. a. ndálòongɔ̀tǐma
b. (¯ -- - _ ¯)
c. ndá toǒ ngɔ̀ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ ma
d. interest stand is is them on
e. ...to focus on.

5. a. mǔâ.á`núm.ulɔ́mà`loǒn.ì
b. (-¯ - _ -- _ _- _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) núm.u tɔ́ ma (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. we - emph. are person see at past stand did
e. We see a person standing...

6. a. kɛ́mǔ.ùkɔ̀.ɔ.ɔ̀gbɛ̂.ɔ́.ì`pé.emà
b. (¯¯ ____ ¯-_ --_)
c. kɛ́ mǔ .ì kɔ́l.ɔ n.ì gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ .ì (.ì) pé.e ma
d. but we not know neg. what emph. he it do at
e. ...but we do not know what he is doing.

7. a. nâhugbí,
b. (¯ _ -)
c. ná hu gbí
d. that in any
e. In any case...

8. a. tâ.á`loǒn.ì`nyɔɔ̌.îgu.lɔ́
b. (¯- _- _ __¯_ -)
c. t â l.ɔ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) nyɔɔ̌ .í ku.lɔ́
d. he - emph. past. stand did is corn the in-front
e. ...he is standing in front of the corn.

9. a. mǔ`gbuǎng.a`.ánâma,
b. (¯ __ ¯ -- _)
c. mǔ (.ì) kpuǎ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ná ma
d. we past leave have is emph. that on
e. If we leave that...

10. a. mǔngǐwôomagbêng.a`.á,
b. (¯ _¯-- ¯ _ -)
c. mǔ ((.ì)) ngǐ pôoma kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we past his back look have is emph.
e. ...if we look behind him...

11. a. mǎ`tangǎ-vale.îlɔ́`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ __ ¯--- _)
c. mǔ (.à) tangǎ fále .í tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we will cassava sprout the see is emph.
e. ...we see cassava sprouts.

12. see # 9.

13. a. mǎ`ngúl.ungà.alɔ́`l.ɔ́tǐ`loǒn.ì
b. (¯ -- _ _¯ -- _- _)
c. mǔ (.à) ngúl.u ngà.a tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ tǐ (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. we will tree pl. see is emph. they past stand did
e. ...we see trees standing...

14. a. tǐmahúlèw.ěngɔ̀,
b. (¯_-_ ¯ _)
c. tǐ mahú tew.ě ngɔ̀
d. their height pass is
e. ...their height surpassing...

15. a. tú-han.i.îyeépèkɛ.îsiàma,
b. (- - --_-_ _-- --)
c. tú han.ǐ .í yeé peka .í sià ma
d. flora thing the : other the pl. on
e. ...the other things...

16. a. tǐ`kpal.ɛ̌.îhu
b. (¯ _ _¯_)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) kpal.ǎ .í hu
d. they are farm the in
e. ...on the farm.

17. a. ngúl.i.íjîsià-mia,
b. (¯ ¯¯¯-_ _ _)
c. ngúl.u .í jí sià mia
d. tree these it-is
e. It is these trees...

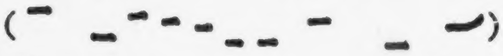
18. a. mátǐlól.i.àtɔ́kpɔ.í
b. (¯ _- - _- --)
c. mǔ ((.à)) tǐ tól.i .à tɔ́kpɔ .í
d. we will them call by palm the
e. ...we call palms.

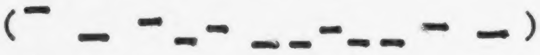
19. a. mǔâ.á`han.ǐlɔ́mà`toǒngɔ̀kíâpέl.ɛ
b. (-¯- _ _¯ _ _- _--_ _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) han.ǐ tɔ̌ ma (.ì) toǒ ngɔ̀ kíâ pέl.ɛ
d. we - <u>emph.</u> is thing see at it stand is like house
e. We see a thing standing like a house.

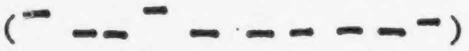
20. a. kέhàn.ǐ.íjîtá,ngìbiyɛ.í.ìgba
b. (¯ _ _ ¯¯- - _ _- _ _)
c. kέ hàn.ǐ .í jí tá ngǐ mbiyɛ̂ .í .ì gba
d. but thing this very its name the it different
e. But this particular thing's name is different.

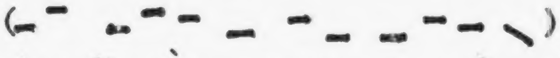
21. a. yeésέmbɛ.íjímǔ`tɔ́mà`wɛ.ɛ̌n.ì,
b. (_¯- -¯-- -_ _ ¯ _)
c. yeé sέmbɛ .í jí mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma (.ì) pɛl.ɛ̌ n.ì
d. of all: big one this we are it see at <u>past</u> stoop did
e. This particular one we see stooping...

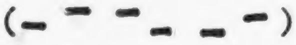
22. a. tâ-miamǎ`tòl.i.àkpuɛ̂.í
b. (¯ _-¯ _ _ _ _¯-)
c. t â mia mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à kpuâ .í
d. it - it-is we will it name with farm house the
e. ...is what we call <u>kpuɛ̂.í</u> (farm house).

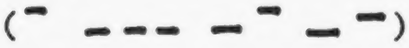
23. a. mǔ`kpuɛ̂.îwôomagbêng.a`.á
    b. ()
    c. mǔ (.ì) kpuâ .í pôoma kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
    d. we <u>past</u> farm house the behind look have is <u>emph.</u>
    e. If we look behind the farm house...

24. a. mǎ`han.ǐloǒngɔ̀yeépèkalɔ́`l.ɔ́
    b. ()
    c. mǔ (.à) han.ǐ toǒ ngɔ̀ yeé peka tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
    d. we will thing stand is : other see is <u>emph.</u>
    e. ...we will see another thing standing.

25. a. jî-miamǎ`tɔ̀l.i.àmbɛtɛ̌.í
    b. ()
    c. jí mia mǔ (.à) tól.i .à mbɛtɛ̌.í
    d. this it-is we will name with platform
    e. This is what we call a <u>mbɛtɛ̌.í</u> (platform).

26. a. àmǔ`kpuɛ̂.íngǐndáyèngɛ̌.îgɛ́lɛ̂
    b. ()
    c. à mǔ (?) kpuâ .í ngǐ ndá ngengɛ̌ .í kɛ́ lɛ̂
    d. let us farm house the its own work the show for now
    e. Let us now report on the job of the farm house.

27. a. yelá-mia`.àjí
    b. ()
    c. yelá mia (yɛ̀) .à jí
    d. one it-is is as this
    e. This is one.

28. a. mǎ`pòte.àndɛvû-mal.ɔ́
    b. ()
    c. mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) potê .à ndɛvû mà l.ɔ́
    d. we will it turn-into as rest place <u>emph.</u>
    e. We turn it into a resting place.

29. a. mǎ`pòte.àmɛ̌hɛ̂yílimàl.ɔ́
b. (‾ _ _ _ _ ‾ - - _ -)
c. mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) potê .à mɛ̌hɛ̂ ngíl.i ma l.ɔ́
d. we will it turn-into as food cook place emph.
e. We turn it into a food cooking place.

30. a. tâómǎ`pòte.àhindɛ̂.ínâ`l.ɔ́,
b. (‾ - ‾ _ _ _ _ ‾ - - -)
c. tâó mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) potê .à hindâ .í ná (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. and we will it turn-into as place that is emph.
e. And we turn it into that place where...

31. a. mǎ`haâkangà.alámàgbatɛ̂nà
b. (‾ - ‾ _ _ _ ‾ _ - ‾ _)
c. mǔ (.à) haâka ngà.a ndá ma kpatɛ̂ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. we will thing pl. lay place fix is there
e. ...we will fix a place to store things there.

32. a. mbɛtɛ̌.íngǐndáyèngě.î-mia`.àjí
b. (- - ‾ _ ‾ _ - ‾ - - - ‾)
c. mbɛtɛ̌ .í ngǐ ndá ngengě .í mia (yɛ̀) .à jí
d. platform the its own job the it-is is as this
e. The job of the platform is this.

33. a. nàmîandopô-mumu.îsià,
b. (- ‾ - - ‾ _ _ ‾ - _)
c. nà mia ndopô múmu .í sià
d. that it-is child small the pl.
e. That is where small children...

34. a. .ɔ̀kpako.îsiàtǎ`heǐnà,
b. (_ - - ‾ - _ ‾ _ ‾ _)
c. .ɔ̀ kpako .í sià tǐ (.à) heǐ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. or adult the pl. they will sit is there
e. ...or adults sit...

35. a. kɔɔ́tǐkpa.ǎ.âmaǎgbɛ́
    b. (-¯¯ - -¯-- ¯)
    c. kɔɔ́ tǐ kpal.ǎ .í maǎ kpɛ́
    d. that that-they farm the on chase
    e. ...so they can guard the farm (from birds).

36. a. gbɛ̂va-mia.átǎ`kpa.ǎ.âmaǎgbɛ́
    b. (¯ - --¯¯ - -¯-- ¯)
    c. gbɛ̂ va mia l.ɔ́ tǐ (.à) kpal.ǎ .í maǎ kpɛ́
    d. what for it-is emph. they will farm the on chase
    e. Why do they guard the farm?

37. a. tǎ`kpa.ǎ.âmàǎgbɛ́,
    b. (¯ - -¯-- /)
    c. tǐ (.à) kpal.ǎ .í maǎ kpɛ́
    d. they will farm the on chase
    e. They guard the farm...

38. a. jîvatǐ.ìlòn.ì,
    b. (¯-¯-- /)
    c. jí fa tǐ .ì ndó n.ì
    d. this for they not like neg.
    e. ...because they do not like...

39. a. ŋɔnǐngà.atíwǎ,tí`mbɛɛ̌.îmɛ̌
    b. (-¯ --¯¯ ¯ --¯/)
    c. ŋɔnǐ ngà.a tǐ pǎ tǐ (?̀) mbaǎ .í mɛ̌
    d. bird pl. that-they come that-they rice the eat
    e. ...the birds which come and eat rice.

40. a. mǔ`lemǎ.i`l.ɔ́wɛ̀í,
    b. (¯ --¯ - -/)
    c. mǔ (.ì) ndemǎ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ wɛí
    d. we past forget did is emph. some time ago
    e. We forgot...

41. a. mǔ.ùhan.ǐ.íjîbájingɔ̀.íjímǔ`tɔ́mà,
b. (‾ - - - ‾‾- - _ --- - ‿)
c. mǔ .ì hanǐ .í jí báji ngɔ̀ .í jí mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma
d. we not thing this yellow is this we are it see at
e. see # 42.

42. a. ngǐndábìyɛ.îgɛ́n.ì
b. (- ‾ - - ‾- _)
c. ngǐ ndá mbiyɛ .í kɛ́ n.ì
d. its own name the show neg.
e. ...to tell the name of this yellow thing we are looking at.

43. a. ngǐbiyɛ.î-mia`.àmbɛɛ̌.í
b. (‾ -- ‾ -- - --‾)
c. ngǐ mbiyɛ .í mia (yɛ̀) .à mbaǎ .í
d. its name the it-is is as rice the
e. Its name is rice.

44. a. tɔ́kpɔ.îbɛ́`loǒn.ì`kpa.ǎ.ájîhu,
b. (- ‾‾- -‾ _ - - ‾‾ ‿)
c. tɔ́kpɔ .í bɛ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) kpal.ǎ .í jí hu
d. palm the also past stand did is farm this in
e. Palm trees also are standing on this farm.

45. a. ngǐndáyèngě.îgbotǒngɔ̀
b. (- ‾ _ _‾ _ ‾ _)
c. ngǐ ndá ngengě .í kpotǒ ngɔ̀
d. its own work the much is
e. Its uses are many.

46. a. yelá-mia`.àngú.lɔvélà
b. (_‾ ‾_ _ ‾ ‾‾ _)
c. yelá mia (yɛ̀) .à ngú.lɔ fé là
d. one it-is is as oil give-ing
e. Bearing oil is one.

47. a. yeépèkɛ.î-mia`.àtɔlîvélà
b. (-‾- -‾ -- --‾- -)
c. yeé peka .í mia (yὲ) .à tɔlî fé là
d. : other the it-is is as nut give-ing
e. Another is giving nuts.

48. a. tɔlî.íjî-miakpa.ǎ-bla.a.átǎ`kɔ̂l.i,
b. (_‾-- _- - - ‾--- - _↗)
c. tɔlî .í jí mia kpal.ǎ bla.a .í tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) kɔ̂l.i
d. nut this it-is farm people the they will it pick
e. It is this nut that the farm people pick...

49. a. kὲtǐmaǎjiǎnavóvâ
b. (_ ‾-‾-‾_‾↘)
c. kὲ tǐ maǎ siǎ navó fâ
d. and them sell money for
e. ...and sell them for money.

50. a. tókpɔ-yasɛ.î-mia
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ -- __)
c. ɔ́kpɔ njasǎ .í mia
d. palm frond the it-is
e. It is with palm fronds...

51. a. tǎ`pé.ɛmàǎlέla
b. (‾ - -__--)
c. tǐ (.à) pέl.ɛ maǎ tέ la
d. they will house on lift with
e. ...they thatch houses.

52. a. yeéfá.a.â-miatǎ`kɛɛ̌.îyí.lala
b. (-‾--- _-‾ --‾- - -)
c. yeé fál.a .í mia tǐ (.à) kaǎ .í ngí.la la
d. : fiber the it-is they will dirt the sweep with
e. It is with the fibers that they sweep dirt.

53. a. yeéfá.a.ájî-miamǎ`tòl.i.àkpángbɛ.í
    b. (-‾ ‾ ‾ ‾ ‾ - - ‾ - - - ‾ ‾ ‾)
    c. yeé fál.a .í jí mia mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à kpángba .í
    d. : fiber this it-is we will it call by broom the
    e. We call these fibers a <u>kpángbɛ.í</u> (broom).

54. a. àmǔ gɛ̀.ɛlɛbéi
    b. (_ ‾ - - - ‾ ‾)
    c. à mǔ kɛl.ɛ̂lɛ ((yɛ̀)) béi
    d. let us stop is here
    e. Let us stop here.

<u>Slide Five: Making A Boat</u>

1. a. han.ǐ.íjímǔ`tɔ́mà`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
    b. (_ _ ‾ ‾ ‾ - _ _ _ ‾ ‾ _)
    c. han.ǐ .í jí mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
    d. thing this we are it see at is picture this in
    e. We see something in this picture.

2. a. tâ-miamɛndé-bla.a.átǎ`tòl.i.àndɛndɛ̌.í
    b. (‾ - - - ‾ ‾ - - - _ - - - - ‾)
    c. t â mia mɛndé bla.a .í tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à ndɛndɛ̌ .í
    d. it - is Mende people the they will it name with boat the
    e. The Mende people call it <u>ndɛndɛ̌.í</u> (a boat).

3. a. ndɛndɛ̌.íngǐndáyèngě.îhǔfel.é
    b. (- - ‾ _ ‾ _ _ ‾ - _ -)
    c. ndɛndɛ̌ .í ngǐ ndá ngengě .í hǔ fel.é
    d. boat the its own work the in two
    e. The work of the boat is two-fold.

4. a. ngǐndáyèngě.í,
    b. (- ‾ _ _ ‾)
    c. ngǐ ndá ngengě .í
    d. its own work the
    e. Its work...

5. a. yeéhàla-gee.ê-mia`.ànyɛ́gbɛ́là
b. (_‾ _ _ __‾ ___ _ ‾ ‾ _)
c. yeé hàla yee .í mia (yɛ̀) .à nyɛ́ kpɛ́ là
d. : first kind the it-is is as fish chase-ing
e. ...is primarily fishing.

6. a. mŭ`gbuă.a`.ánâma,
b. (‾ __‾ _ _ _)
c. mŭ (.ì) kpuă ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ná ma
d. we past leave have is emph. that on
e. If we leave that...

7. a. kɛ̀mŭ`pòteng.a.ànjaălέw.ehàn.i
b. (_‾ __ __ __‾‾_ _)
c. kɛ̀ mŭ ((.ì)) (.ì) potê ng.a .à njaă tέw.e han.ĭ
d. then we past it turn-into have as water cut thing
e. ...then we turn it into a water crossing thing.

8. a. àmŭ wòtena.âlɛ̀
b. (_‾ ___‾_)
c. à mŭ potê na.âlɛ̀
d. let us turn for now
e. Let us turn now...

9. a. ndɛndɛ̌.íjîgbatɛ̂gii.î-gama
b. (_ _‾‾ _‾__‾ _ _)
c. ndɛndɛ̌ .í jí kpatɛ̂ yii .í kama
d. boat this make way the toward
e. ...to the way this boat is made.

10. a. halɛ.ímŭ`lìma`ndɔgbɔ̌.îhu`l.ɔ́
b. (__‾‾ __ __‾_ _)
c. hala .í mŭ (yɛ̀) ndĭ ma (yɛ̀) ndɔgbɔ̌ .í hu (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. first the we are go at is bush the into is emph.
e. First we go into the bush...

11. a. mǔ`ngúl.i.îwɔ́
    b. (¯ - - - -)
    c. mǔ (?̀) ngúl.i .í pɔ́
    d. that-we tree the fell
    e. ...to fell a tree.

12. a. mǎ`yeéngúl.i.îgɔ́kɔ̂k.i,pɛ́in
    b. (¯ _¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ - - _ - -)
    c. mǔ (.à) yeé ngúl.u .í kɔ́kɔ̂l.i pɛ́in
    d. we will : tree the seek very first
    e. First we will seek out a particular type of tree.

13. a. gbɛvangúl.i.îyeélásigbòtǒngɔ̀
    b. (- - ¯ ¯ ¯_- - - _ ¯ _)
    c. gbɛva ngúl.u .í yeé lási kpotǒ ngɔ̀
    d. because tree the : kinds many are
    e. Because there are many kinds of trees.

14. a. ngúl.i.ínàkpákpaunngɔ̀
    b. (¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ - ¯¯ -)
    c. ngúl.u .í ná kpákpaun ngɔ̀
    d. tree that hard is
    e. The tree that is firm...

15. a. ngúl.i.íná.ànjaǎhoǐ,
    b. (¯ ¯ ¯ ¯_ _¯_ _)
    c. ngúl.u .í ná .à njaǎ hoǐ
    d. tree that will water hold
    e. ...the tree which will hold water...

16. a. ngúl.i.íná.ɛ̀lúlakàka,
    b. (¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ _¯¯ _ _)
    c. ngúl.u .í ná .ɛ̀ ndúla kaka
    d. tree that will-not rot quickly
    e. ...the tree which will not rot quickly...

17. a. ngúl.i.ínâsɛ́mbɛngɔ̀ngǐwótoma,
    b. (¯ --- - - _ _ - - -‿)
    c. ngúl.u .í ná sɛ́mbɛ ngɔ̀ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngóto ma
    d. tree that bigness is is his bottom at
    e. ...the tree that is big in the trunk...

18. a. ngúl.i.íjîbonda-miamǎ`kɔ́kɔ̂l.i
    b. (¯ - -- _ - -- ¯ - - _)
    c. ngúl.u .í jí bonda mia mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) kɔ́kɔ̂l.i
    d. tree this kind it-is we will it seek
    e. ...we seek a tree of this type.

19. a. mǔ`tɔ́ng.a`.á,
    b. (¯ - - ‿)
    c. mǔ ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
    d. we <u>past</u> it see have is <u>emph.</u>
    e. When we see it...

20. a. kɛ̀mǔ`pɔ́ng.a
    b. (_¯ - -)
    c. kɛ̀ mǔ ((.ì)) (.ì) pɔ́ ng.a
    d. then we <u>past</u> it fell have
    e. ...then we cut it.

21. a. mǎ`pɔ́tɛ̀ɛ̂nganú.uli.îhu
    b. (¯ -_- _ ---¯_)
    c. mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) pɔ́ tɛɛ̂nga núm.u ndí .í hu
    d. we will it fell perhaps person chest the in (2 yards)
    e. see # 22.

22. a. ná.âni.ɔ̀lɔ́.ɔ̂lu
    b. (¯¯ _ _ - - _)
    c. ná.âni .ɔ̀ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu
    d. four or five
    e. We will cut it 8 or 10 yards long.

23. a. mǔ`pɔ́ng.a`.á,
    b. (¯ - - ‿)
    c. mǔ ((.ì)) (.ì) pɔ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
    d. we <u>past</u> the fell have is <u>emph.</u>
    e. After we have felled it...

24. a. kɛ̀mǔ`ndà.a`ndɔ.ɔ̂ma
    b. (_¯ - - - ¯_)
    c. kɛ̀ mǔ ((.ì)) (.ì) ndá ng.a (yɛ̀) ndɔ.ɔ̂ ma
    d. then we <u>past</u> it put have is ground on
    e. ...we put it on the ground...

25. a. kɛ̀mǔ`tâtoông.a.à`hǔhagálà
    b. (-¯ ¯-¯ -- ¯-¯_)
    c. kɛ̀ mǔ ((.ì)) (.ì) tâtoô ng.a .à (.ì) hǔ hagá là
    d. then we <u>past</u> it begin have with it in carve-ing
    e. ...then we begin carving it out.

26. a. mǔ`hagámàhá.âni
    b. (¯ _¯ _--_)
    c. mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) hagá ma há.âni
    d. we are it carve at until
    e. We carve it until...

27. a. mǔ`yeékòǒ-hu.îgbatɛ̂
    b. (¯ -¯-- ¯¯ _ \)
    c. mǔ (?̀) yeé koǒ hu .í kpatɛ̂
    d. that-we : belly in the make
    e. ...we make the inside.

28. a. tâó`maǎhoǐngɔ̀,
    b. (¯- -¯-¯ _)
    c. tâó (.ì) maǎhoǐ ngɔ̀
    d. and it necessary is <u>(idiom)</u>
    e. And it is necessary...

29. a. mǔ`tɔ́kɛ̀ndɛndɛ̌.í,
b. (¯ - _ _ _ -)
c. mǔ ((?)) (.ì) tɔ́ kɛ̀ ndɛndɛ̌ .í
d. that-we it see that boat the
e. ...that we see that the boat...

30. a. ngǐyáka-mɛ.î.ìlɛ̀vɛlɛvɛn.ì
b. (- ¯¯ ¯- _ _ _ _ _ _)
c. ngǐ káka ma .í .ì tɛ́vɛ tɛ́vɛ n.ì
d. its side place the it-not thin thin <u>neg.</u>
e. ...does not have thin sides.

31. a. gbɛva.ìyaátɛ́vɛlɛvɛ,
b. (_ _ _ _ - - - - ¯)
c. gbɛva .ì yaá tɛ́vɛ tɛ́vɛ
d. because it is thin thin
e. Because if it is thin...

32. a. hú.ɛ̀gûhapɛ́in.ínyànî
b. (¯ _¯ _-- - _ \ )
c. hú .ɛ̀ kûha pɛ́in .í nyanî
d. in-time will-not lengthen before that-it spoil
e. ...it will not be long before it is ruined.

33. a. kênɛ.ínâ`loǒn.ì`ndɛndɛ̌.ínâgu.lɔ́,
b. (¯ - - - _- _ - _ -- _ -)
c. kêna .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) ndɛndɛ̌ .í ná ku.lɔ́
d. man that <u>past</u> stand did is boat that in-front
e. see # 34

34. a. kpakǐ-baa.â-miangǐma
b. (_ _ ¯-- _ _ _-)
c. kpakǐ-baa .í mia ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. shirt the it-is is him on
e. ...There is a sleeveless shirt on the man standing in front of the boat.

35. a. nyágíl.ingɔ̀`la,
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ _ _)
c. ngǐ kíl.i ngɔ̀ (.ì) la
d. my thought is it on
e. I think...

36. a. kɛ̀tâ-mia`ndɛndɛ̌.íjîgbatɛ̂mà
b. (- ¯ -- - -¯¯ - ¯ _)
c. kɛ̀ t â mia (yɛ̀) ndɛndɛ̌ .í jí kpatɛ̂ ma
d. that he - it-is is boat this make at
e. ...that he is the one making this boat.

<u>Slide Six: Women at Work</u>

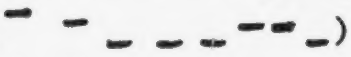
1. a. àwǔâ.ánà?
b. (--¯ - _)
c. à wǔ â l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. <u>pl.</u> you - <u>emph.</u> are there
e. Hello.

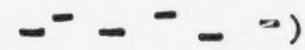
2. a. wǔsiɛ̂
b. (¯ - \\)
c. wǔ siɛ̂
d. you thank
e. Thank you.

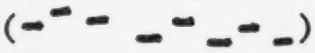
3. a. nɛnɛ.íjî-mia,
b. (--¯¯ _ _)
c. nɛnɛ .í jí mia
d. picture this it-is
e. It is this picture...

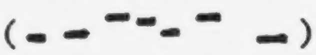
4. a. mǔ`yɛpɛ̌ma,ndálòǒngɔ̀`ma
b. (¯ --¯ ¯ _¯ _ _)
c. mǔ (yɛ̀) ngɛpɛ̌ ma ndá toǒ ngɔ̀ (.ì) ma
d. we are talk at focus stand is it on
e. ...we are going to talk about.

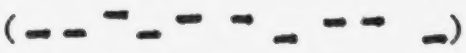
5. a. mǎ`haâkɛ.îsiàtɛɛ̂ngalágɛ́`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ -¯ - - -_-¯ _-- -)
c. mǔ (.à) haâka .í sià tɛɛ̂nga ndá kɛ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we will thing the <u>pl.</u> some name show is <u>emph.</u>
e. We will show the name of the things...

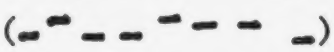
6. a. mǔ`tɔ́mà`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
   b. ()
   c. mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
   d. we are it see at is picture this in
   e. ...we see in this picture.

7. a. `loǒn.ì`mǔgu.lɔ́
   b. ()
   c. (.ì) toǒ n.ì ́yɛ̀) mǔ ku.lɔ́
   d. past stand did is us in-front
   e. Standing in front of us...

8. a. mǔâ.á`haâkalɔ́mà
   b. ()
   c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) haâka tɔ́ ma
   d. we - emph. is thing see on
   e. ...we see a thing...

9. a. kulɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`hu
   b. ()
   c. kulǎ .í sià tǐ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) hu
   d. cloth the pl. they are it in
   e. ...with dresses in it.

10. a. kulɛ̌.îyelál.ɔ́nà`bájingɔ̀
   b. ()
   c. kulǎ .í yelá l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà (.ì) báji ngɔ̀
   d. cloth the one emph. is there it yellow is
   e. One of the cloths we see there is yellow.

11. a. yeépèkɛ.înɔ́nɔngɔ̀
   b. ()
   c. yeé peka .í nɔ́nɔ ngɔ̀
   d. : other the green is
   e. The other is green.

12. a. haâkɛ.íjîkulɛ̆.íjîsiàtĭ`hu
b. (-¯--- __ --¯-_- _)
c. haâka .í jí kulă .í jí sià tĭ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) hu
d. thing this cloth these they are it in
e. This thing with cloth in it...

13. a. tâ-miamă`tòl.i.àsámbɛ.í
b. (¯ --¯ ___¯ ¯¯)
c. t â mia mŭ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à sámba .í
d. it - it-is we will it name with basket the
e. ...is what we call sámbɛ.í (basket).

14. a. mă`kulă-gol.e.îlɔ́`l.ɔ́`laăn.ì,
b. (¯ -- ¯ ¯¯- - _¯ _)
c. mŭ (.à) kulă kol.ĕ .í tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ (.ì) ndá n.ì
d. we will cloth white the see is emph. past lie did
e. We see the white cloth lying...

15. a. `ngál.ɛ.îma`sámbɛ.íjîgblang.á
b. (¯ ¯¯_ - --¯ _ ¯)
c. (yɛ̀) ngál.a .í ma (yɛ̀) sámba .í jí kplang.á
d. is mat the on is basket this near
e. ...on the mat near this basket.

16. a. múmŭyâmɛ.îlɛ́ng.a`.ák.lò,
b. (¯ _¯ --_ - _)
c. mŭ ((.ì)) mŭ ngâma .í tɛ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ku.lo
d. we past our eye the lift have is emph. a little
e. If we raise our eyes a little...

17. a. mă`kɔ̂w.ulɔ́`l.ɔ́náhî,
b. (¯ ¯ _¯ --\)
c. mŭ (.à) kɔ̂w.u tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ náhî
d. we will box see is emph. which
e. ...we will see a box (on) which...

18. a. kulǎhɔ́l.ɔmànši.í̀heǐn.ì̀ma
b. (- - ‾ ‾ _ -‾ -‾ - _)
c. kulǎ hɔ́l.ɔ manšî .í (.ì) heǐ n.ì (.ì) ma
d. cloth sew machine the past sit did it on
e. ...the sewing machine sits.

19. a. yeékɔ̂w.i.íjî-miamǎ̀tòl.i.àkaŋá.á
b. (-‾‾ --- __‾ _---‾‾)
c. yeé kɔ̂w.u .í jí mia mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à kaŋá .í
d. : box this it-is we will it name with box the
e. We call this box kaŋá.á (box).

20. a. mǔ̀kulǎhɔ́l.ɔmànsi.íngǐbiyɛ.îgéng.a
b. (‾ __ -- _ _‾‾ __‾- -)
c. mǔ (.ì) kulǎ hɔ́l.ɔ mansî .í ngǐ mbiyɛ̂ .í kɛ́ ng.a
d. we past cloth sew machine the its name the show have
e. We have shown the sewing machine's name.

21. a. mǔâ.á̀nyahâlɔ́mà̀heǐn.ì
b. (-‾- _‾- _ _‾ _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) nyahâ tɔ́ ma (.ì) heǐ n.ì
d. we - emph. are wife see at past sit did
e. We see a wife seated...

22. a. ̀kulǎhɔ́l.ɔmànši.íjîwôoma
b. (_ _‾ ‾ _ _ ‾‾-__)
c. (yɛ̀) kulǎ hɔ́l.ɔ manšî .í jí pôoma
d. is cloth sew machine this behind
e. ...behind this sewing machine...

23. a. ndó.íngǐyákahu
b. (‾‾ _ ---)
c. ndó .í ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ káka hu
d. child the is her side in
e. ...child beside her.

24. a. kulǎ-lɛl.i.î-mia`nyahɛ̂.íjîma
b. (-- ¯ -- __ _ ¯ -- _)
c. kulǎ tɛl.ǐ .í mia (yɛ̀) nyahâ .í jí ma
d. cloth black the it-is is wife this on
e. A black dress is on this wife...

25. a. .ɔ̀nyâpo.íjîma
b. (- ¯ --- _)
c. .ɔ̀ nyâpo .í jí ma
d. or woman this on
e. ...or this woman.

26. a. nyâpo.íjîwumbá,
b. (¯ --- _ -)
c. nyâpo .í jí ngumbá
d. woman this head
e. On this woman's head...

27. a. mǎ`kulǎyil.ǐngɔ̀lɔ́`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ _¯_ - _¯ -)
c. mǔ (.à) kulǎ ngil.ǐ ngɔ̀ tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we will cloth tie is see is emph.
e. ...we see a cloth tied.

28. a. yeékùlɛ̌.íjî-miamǎ`tòl.i.àkpayɛ̌.í
b. (_¯-- ¯¯ -- ¯ - - - - -¯)
c. yeé kulǎ .í jí mia mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à kpayǎ .í
d. : cloth this it-is we will it name with head-tie the
e. It is this cloth we call kpayɛ̌.í (head-tie).

29. a. mǔ`nyâpo.íjîwôomagbêng.a`.á
b. (¯ - --___ - _ -)
c. mǔ (.ì) nyâpo .í jí pôoma kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we past woman this behind look have is emph.
e. If we look behind this woman...

30. a. mǎ`kalǒlɔ́`l.ɔ́`loǒn.ì
b. (¯ --¯ - _-_)
c. mǔ (.à) kalǒ tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. we will basin see is emph. past stand did
e. ...we will see a basin standing.

31. a. yeékàlǒ.íjî-mia
    b. (-‾ -- ‾‾ --)
    c. yeé kalǒ .í jí mia
    d. : basin this it-is
    e. It is this type of basin...

32. a. mǎ`tòl.i.àjagbɛ.í
    b. (‾ - - - - _ -)
    c. mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à jagba .í
    d. we will it name with basin the
    e. ...we call jagbɛ.í (basin).

33. a. jagbɛ.íyèékûhang.ɔ̀.íl.ɔ́`loǒn.ì
    b. (- - ‾_‾‾ _ _‾ ‾ _‾_)
    c. jagba .í yeé kûha ng.ɔ̀ .í l.ɔ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì
    d. basin the : tall is the emph. past stand did
    e. The tall basin is standing...

34. a. `jagbɛ.íyèékúti.îwôoma
    b. (- - ‾_‾‾‾‾ ‾__)
    c. (yɛ̀) jagba .í yeé kútu .í pôoma
    d. is basin the : short the behind
    e. ...behind the short one.

35. a. nyâpo.îyeépèkɛ.ínâ`heǐn.ì
    b. (‾ ‾‾_‾__‾‾ _‾_)
    c. nyâpo .í yeé peka .í ná (.ì) heǐ n.ì
    d. woman the : other that past sit did
    e. That other woman sitting...

36. a. nyâpo.îyeénákùlǎ-lɛl.i.íngǐma,
    b. (‾‾‾_‾‾__ ‾‾‾ _ ‾)
    c. nyâpo .í yeé ná kulǎ tɛl.ǐ .í ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
    d. woman the : which dress black the is her on
    e. ...the woman with the black dress on...

37. a. mǔ.ùkɔ̀.ɔ.ɔ̀ná.ì`pé.emà
b. (¯ - - - - ¯ - ¯ ¯ -)
c. mǔ (.ì) kɔ́l.ɔ n.ì ná .ì (.ì) pé.e ma
d. we <u>neg.</u> know did that she it do at
e. ...we do not know what she is doing.

38. a. kɛ́mǎ`ndomǎ-yekalɔ́`l.ɔ́ngǐma
b. (¯ ¯ - - ¯ -¯ - _ -)
c. kɛ́ mǔ (.à) ndomǎ peka tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. but we will shirt other see is <u>emph.</u> is her on
e. But we see a different shirt on her.

39. a. mǎ`kpayǎlɔ́`l.ɔ́ngǐwumbá
b. (¯ - - ¯ - - _ -)
c. mǔ (.à) kpayǎ tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngumbá
d. we will head-tie see is <u>emph.</u> is her on-top
e. We see a head-tie on her.

40. a. kɛ́bí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂,
b. (¯ ¯ - - - ◡)
c. kɛ́ bí ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ bɛ̂
d. but you <u>past</u> it see have is <u>emph.</u> you-saying
e. And you would say...

41. a. ngǐlóngɔ̀.ínɛ̀makɔ̂l.i.àkulǎhɔ́l.ɔlà
b. (- ¯ - ¯ - - ¯ - - - - ¯ - _)
c. ngǐ ndó ngɔ̀ .í nɛmakɔ̂l.i .à kulǎ hɔ́l.ɔ là
d. her desire is that-she practice with cloth sew -ing
e. ...she would like to try sewing.

42. a. mǔngǐwɔ̂omagbêng.a`.á,
b. (¯ - ¯ - - - _ ‿)
c. mǔ ((.ì)) ngǐ pɔ̂oma kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we <u>past</u> her behind look have is <u>emph.</u>
e. If we look behind her...

43. a. nyâpo.îyeéfèl.e-gee.éjí,
b. (‾ - - _ ‾ _ _ _ - ‾ ‾)
c. nyâpo .í yeé fel.é yeé .í jí
d. woman the : second this
e. ...this second woman...

44. a. mǎ`soso-vɛlɛ.îlɔ́`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ _ _ _ _ ‾ - _)
c. mǔ (.à) soso fɛlɛ̂ .í tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we will Susu winnowing fan the see is emph.
e. ...we see a Susu winnowing fan.

45. a. fɛlɛ̂.íjîsiàtǐ`fel.é
b. (_ ‾ - - - _ ‾ _ -)
c. fɛlɛ̂ .í jí sià tǐ (yɛ̀) fel.é
d. winnowing fan these they are two
e. There are two of these winnowing fans.

46. a. bí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂,
b. (‾ - - _ ~)
c. bí ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ bɛ̂
d. you past it say have is emph. you-say
e. It looks as if... (idiom, see # 40)

47. a. maǎ-jia-mɛhɛngà.a-mia
b. (_ _ ‾ - _ _ _ _ _ _)
c. maǎ siǎ mɛ̌hɛ̂ ngà.a mia
d. selling food pl. it-is
e. ...foods for sale...

48. a. tǐ`fɛlɛ̂.íjîsiàhu
b. (‾ _ ‾ - - - _ _)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) fɛlɛ̂ .í jí sià hu
d. they are fan these in
e. ...are in these fans.

49. a. ngúl.ungà.al.ɔ́`nɛnɛ.íjîhu

b. (¯ ¯ _ _ ¯ _ _¯¯ _)

c. ngúl.u ngà.a l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu

d. tree pl. emph. is picture this in

e. Sticks are in this picture.

50. a. yeéngúl.i.íjîsià-mia

b. (_¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ -_ _ _)

c. yeé ngúl.u .í jí sià mia

d. : stick these it-is

e. It is these sticks...

51. a. mátǐlól.i.àndɔkɔ̌.í

b. (¯ _¯ ¯ _ _ _ ¯)

c. mǔ ((.à)) tǐ tól.i .à ndɔkɔ̌ .í

d. we will them call by post the

e. ...we call ndɔkɔ̌.í (post).

52. a. yeéndɔ̀kɔ̌.íjîsià,

b. (_¯ _ _ ¯¯¯‿)

c. yeé ndɔkɔ̌ .í jí sià

d. : post these

e. These posts...

53. a. tǐ`loǒn.ì`l.ɔ́kɔ̀ɔ́tǐ`bafɛ.îhoǐ

b. (¯ _¯ _ ¯ _¯¯ _ _ ¯_→)

c. tǐ (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ kɔɔ́ tǐ (?̀) bafa .í hoǐ

d. they past stand did is emph. that that-they hut the hold

e. ...are standing so that they will hold the hut.

54. a. yeébàfɛ.íjîbu-miabí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂,

b. (_¯_ _ ¯¯ _ _-¯ ¯ ¯ _ ╲)

c. yeé bafa .í jí mbu mia

d. : hut this under it-is

e. In this hut, it looks as if...

55. a. mɛ̌hɛ̂maǎjiǎblà.a.átínà,
b. (- ‾ -‾ _‾ _ _ ‾ ‾ _)
c. mɛ̌hɛ̂ maǎ siǎ bla.a .í tǐ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. food sell people the they are there
e. ...there are food sellers there...

56. a. .ɔ̀felě-gɔbla.a.átínà
b. (_ _ _ ‾ - - ‾‾ _)
c. ɔ̀ felě kɔ́ bla.a .í tǐ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. or trade do people the they are there
e. ...or traders are there.

57. bí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂, (see # 40)

58. a. han.ǐ-wekagbí.ìnà
b. (- - ‾ _ ‾ _ _)
c. han.ǐ peka gbí .ì nà
d. thing other any not there
e. You might say that there is not anything else...

59. a. kɔɔ́mǔ yɛpɛ̌`ma
b. (_‾‾ _‾ _)
c. kɔɔ́ mǔ njɛpɛ̌ (.ì) ma
d. that we talk it on
e. ...for us to talk about...

60. a. ndálòǒngɔ̀`ma
b. (‾-‾ - _)
c. ndá toǒ ngɔ̀ (.ì) ma
d. focus stand is it on
e. ...to focus interest on...

61. a. `nɛnɛ.íjîhu
b. (- _‾‾ _)
c. (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. is picture this in
e. ...in this picture.

Slide Seven: The Gara Dyer

1. a. mî-mia.ányâpo.înà
   b. (‾ -- ‾ ‾ -- _)
   c. mî mia l.ɔ́ nyâpo .í ((yɛ̀)) nà
   d. where it-is emph. woman the is there
   e. Where is the woman?

2. a. nyâpo.î`ba fɛ.îbu`l.ɔ́
   b. (‾ -- _ _ ‾ _ -)
   c. nyâpo .í (yɛ̀) bafa .í mbu (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
   d. woman the is hut the under is emph.
   e. The woman is in the hut.

3. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ányâpo.î`pé.emà
   b. (‾ --‾ ‾ -- -- _)
   c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ nyâpo .í ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pé.e ma
   d. what it-is emph. woman the is it do at
   e. What is the woman doing?

4. a. nyâpo.î`heǐ.ì`l.ɔ́
   b. (‾ -- _‾_ -)
   c. nyâpo .í (.ì) heǐ n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
   d. woman the past sit did is emph.
   e. The woman is sitting.

5. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́ngǐma
   b. (‾ - _ -)
   c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
   d. what emph. is her on
   e. What is on her? (what trouble or what clothing)

6. a. han.ǐgbí.ìngǐma
   b. (- - ‾ - -‾)
   c. han.ǐ gbí .ì ngǐ ma
   d. thing any is-not her on
   e. Nothing is wrong with her.

7. a. ngí.ìyɛ̀magbɛ̂.ɔ́ngǐgá.ahu

b. (¯ - - - ¯ ¯ _ - - -)

c. ngí .ì yɛ̀ ma gbɛ́ l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ kál.a hu

d. I not say at what <u>emph.</u> is her bone in

e. I am not asking about her health.

8. a. gbɛ̂.ɔ́`ngìl.ingɔ̀ngǐma

b. (¯ ¯ _ _ _ _ -)

c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ (.ì) ngil.î ngɔ̀ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma

d. what <u>emph.</u> it tie is is her onto

e. What is tied on her?

9. a. kulɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`nyâpo.îma

b. (- - ¯ - - _ - _)

c. kulǎ .í l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) nyâpo .í ma

d. cloth the <u>emph.</u> is woman the on

e. There is a dress on her.

10. a. kpayɛ̌.îl.ɔ́ngǐwumbá

b. (- - ¯ - - _ -)

c. kpayǎ .í l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngumbá

d. head-tie the <u>emph.</u> is her on-top

e. There is a head-tie on her head.

11. a. mbo.omǎ-gani.îl.ɔ́ngǐbó.oma

b. (- - - ¯ - - - _ - - -)

c. mból.o ma káni .í l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ mból.o ma

d. neck on metal the <u>emph.</u> is her neck on

e. There is a necklace on her neck.

12. a. .ìheǐ.ì`l.ɔ́

b. (- - ¯ _ -)

c. (.ì) heǐ n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́

d. <u>past</u> sit did is <u>emph.</u>

e. She is sitting...

13. a. ngǐlokǒ.íngǐgbál.ɛ.îluahú
b. (¯ --¯ _ - -- __-)
c. ngǐ tokǒ .í ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ kpál.a .í nduahú
d. her hand the is her leg the between
e. ...with her hands between her legs.

14. a. mǔâ.ángǐwómbi.îlɔ́mà
b. (-¯ - _- - -- _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngómbi .í tɔ́ má
d. we - emph. are her knee the see at
e. We see her knees.

15. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ányâpo.î`pé.emà
b. (¯ __¯¯ - - - - _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ nyâpo .í ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pé.e ma
d. what it-is emph. woman the is it do at
e. What is the woman doing?

16. a. gbɛ̂-mɔl.ɔ́`.ànyâpo.íjí
b. (¯ _ ¯ _ ¯---)
c. gbɛ̂ mɔ̀ l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) .à nyâpo .í jí
d. what person emph. is as woman this
e. What kind of person is this woman?

17. a. kulǎgbatɛ̂mɔ̀-mia`.àngǐe
b. (-¯_ ¯_ -- --¯)
c. kulǎ kpatɛ̂ mɔ̀ mia (yɛ̀) .à ngǐ e
d. cloth make person it-is is as she -
e. She is a clothes maker.

18. a. njal.ǎ-gulɛ.î-mia.ì`kpatɛ̂mà
b. (_ _ ¯-- --- - ¯_)
c. njal.ǎ kulǎ .í mia .ì ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) kpatɛ̂ ma
d. gara cloth the it-is she is it make at
e. She is making gara cloth.

19. a. mǔâ.ángǐ-yenge-haakɛ.îsialɔ́mà
b. (-‾ - _ ‾ _ --- ‾-_‾ _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngengě haâka .í sià tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are her work things the pl. see at
e. We are looking at her tools.

20. a. mǔâ.á`fáji`fel.élɔ́mà
b. (-‾ - -- _ --_)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) fáji (yɛ̀) fel.é tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are bucket is two see at
e. We see two buckets.

21. a. fáji.íjîsiàhu,
b. (-- -‾ ‾--)
c. fáji .í jí sià hu
d. bucket these in
e. see # 23

22. a. njal.ɛ̌.î-mianyâpo.î (no fall before v̲)
b. (- -‾ -- ‾--)
c. njal.ǎ .í mia nyâpo .í
d. gara the it-is woman the
e. see # 23

23. a. .à`pùtǐhu
b. (- -- ‾)
c. .à (.ì) pú ((yɛ̀)) tǐ hu
d. will it put is them into
e. She will put the indigo into these buckets.

24. a. mǔâ.á`měhɛ̂měgàlolɔ́mà
b. (-‾ - _‾- _-‾ _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) měhɛ̂ mɛ̌ kalǒ tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are food eat basin see at
e. We see a food dish.

25. a. měhɛ̂mɛ̌gàlo.îsiàtǐ`saw.á
b. (- ‾‾_ _ ‾‾_‾ _ ‾)
c. měhɛ̂ mɛ̌ kalǒ .í sià tǐ (yɛ̀) saw.á
d. food eat dish the pl. they are three
e. There are three food dishes.

26. a. mǔâ.á̀mɛ̌hɛ̂mɛ̌gàlo-yekalɔ́mà
b. (-‾ - _‾- _ _ --‾ _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) mɛ̌hɛ̂ mɛ̌ kalǒ peka tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. is food eat basin other see at
e. We see another food dish...

27. a. náhîpu-blɛ.ɛ.îsiàtǐ.ì̀kɔ̀.ɔ.ɔ̀
b. (‾‾- - -‾-_‾ - - - _)
c. náhî pu bla.a .í sià tǐ .ì (.ì) kɔ́l.ɔ n.ì
d. which white person the pl. they not it know neg.
e. ...which the white man does not know about...

28. a. kɛ̀mǎ̀pòte̖l.ɔ́.àmɛ̌hɛ̂mɛ̌gàlo
b. (-‾ - - ‾- -‾- _ _)
c. kɛ̀ mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) potê (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ .à mɛ̌hɛ̂ mɛ̌ kalǒ
d. that we will it turn-into is emph. to food eat basin
e. ...which we turn into a food dish.

29. a. yeékàlǒ.íjî-mia
b. (-‾- -‾‾ - -)
c. yeé kalǒ .í jî mia
d. : basin this it-is
e. see # 30

30. a. mǎ̀tòl.i.àndáw.ɛ.í
b. (‾ _ _ _ ‾ ‾ ‾)
c. mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à ndáw.a .í
d. we will it name with leaf the
e. We call this basin ndáwɛ.í (leaf).

31. a. mǔâ.á̀mɛ̌hɛ̂lɔ́mà̀ndáw.ɛ.îma
b. (-‾- _‾- _ - --_)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) mɛ̌hɛ̂ tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) ndáw.a .í ma
d. we - emph. are food see at is leaf the on
e. We see food on the leaf.

32. a. han.ɪ̌.ɪ́nâ`tɛ̀ngɔ̀`bafɛ.ɪ̂ma
    b. (- - ‾‾ - - - - ‾ _)
    c. han.ɪ̌ ˙.ɪ́ ná (.ɪ̀) tɛ́ ngɔ̀ (yɛ̀) bafa .ɪ́ ma
    d. thing that it raise is is hut the on
    e. That stuff raised to the top of the house...

33. a. tâ-miamǎ`tòl.i.àfoni.ɪ́
    b. (‾ -- ‾ _ - - - - -)
    c. t â mia mǔ ((.à)) (.ɪ̀) tól.i .à foni .ɪ́
    d. it - it-is we will it name with grass the
    e. ...we call <u>foni.ɪ́</u> (grass).

<u>Slide Eight: The Truck in The Mud Hole</u>

1. a. nɛnɛ.ɪ́jɪ́mǔ`tɔ́mà
   b. (- - ‾ ‾ ‾ - _)
   c. nɛnɛ .ɪ́ jɪ́ mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ɪ̀) tɔ́ ma
   d. picture this we are it see at
   e. We are looking at this picture...

2. a. ndálòongɔ̀jiǎ-wel.e.ɪ̂siàl.ɔ̂ma
   b. (‾ -- - -- ‾ - - - _ - _)
   c. ndá toǒ ngɔ̀ siǎ pel.ě .ɪ́ sià l.ɔ́ ma
   d. attention stand is walk road the <u>pl.</u> <u>emph.</u> onto
   e. ...with the roads as the center of interest.

3. a. jiǎ-wel.e.ɪ̂siàyeélási.ɪ̂sià
   b. (-- ‾ - - -__- - - -_ _)
   c. siǎ pel.ě .ɪ́ sià yeé lási .ɪ́ sià
   d. walk road the <u>pl.</u> : type the <u>pl.</u>
   e. Roads of this type...

4. a. tɪ̌gbotǒngɔ̀
   b. (‾ _ ‾ _)
   c. tɪ̌ kpotǒ ngɔ̀
   d. their plenty is
   e. ...are plentiful.

5. a. yeénâsià.ánàtǐgbékpengɔ̀
b. (_‾‾ -_- __ ‾ ‾ _)
c. yeé ná sià l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà tǐ kpékpe ngɔ̀
d. : those emph. is there their good is
e. There are those that are good.

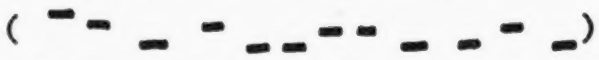
6. a. yeénâsià.ánàtǐnyámungɔ̀
b. (_‾‾ -_- __ ‾ ‾ _)
c. yeé ná sià l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà tǐ nyámu ngɔ̀
d. : those emph. is there their bad is
e. There are those that are bad.

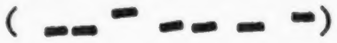
7. a. yeéjîtámǔ`tɔ́mà,
b. (_‾‾-- _ _)
c. yeé jí tá mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma
d. : this one we are it see at
e. The one which we see...

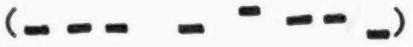
8. a. yeényámungɔ̀.î`l.ɔ́
b. (_‾ ‾ ‾ _‾ -)
c. yeé nyámu ngɔ̀ .í (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. : bad is the is emph.
e. ...is the bad one.

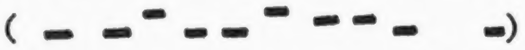
9. a. gbɛ̂.ɔ́`mɔtó.îwé.eng.a
b. (‾ - _‾‾-- -)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ (.ì) mɔtó .í pé.e ng.a
d. what emph. past vehicle the do has
e. What has happened to the truck?

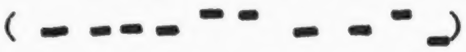
10. a. mɔtó.î`wìl ing.a`patɛ́.îhul.ɔ́`pel.ĕ.îma
b. (- ‾‾ - - - - ‾‾-‾ - -‾_)
c. mɔtó .í (.ì) pilî ng.a (yɛ̀) patá .í hu l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) pelĕ .í ma
d. vehicle the past throw has is mud the into emph. is road the on
e. The truck has been thrown into the mud.

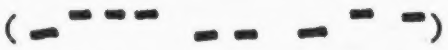
11. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́`wǎn.i.àpatɛ́.î`pel.ĕ.îma
    b. 
    c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ (.ì) pǎ n.i .à patá .í (yɛ̀) pel.ĕ .í ma
    d. what emph. past come did with mud the is road the on
    e. What brought the mud to the road?

12. a. njɛɛ̌.î-mia`wǎn.i
    b. 
    c. njaǎ .í mia (.ì) pǎ n.i
    d. rain the it-is past come did
    e. Rain came...

13. a. kɛ̀.ìwùng.a`pɔ̂l.ɛ.îma
    b. 
    c. kɛ̀ ((.ì)) .ì pú ng.a (yɛ̀) pɔ̂l.ɔ .í ma
    d. and past it put has is dirt the onto
    e. ...and it was put into the dirt...

14. a. `pel.ĕ.îmakɛ̀pɔ̂l.ɛ.î`wúng.a
    b. 
    c. (yɛ̀) pel.ĕ .í ma kɛ̀ pɔ̂l.ɔ .í (.ì) ngú ng.a
    d. is road the on and dirt the past melt has
    e. ...on the road, and the dirt melted.

15. a. `fa-miapatɛ́.î`pel.ĕ.îma
    b. 
    c. (.ì) fa mia patá .í (yɛ̀) pel.ĕ .í ma
    d. it for it-is mud the is road the on
    e. Therefore there is mud on the road.

16. a. mɔtó.íjî`lìma`mɛndél.ɔ́
    b. 
    c. mɔtó .í jí (yɛ̀) ndǐ ma (yɛ̀) mɛndé l.ɔ́
    d. vehicle this is go at is Mende emph.
    e. This truck is going to Mende country.

17. a. mɔtójìǎmɔ̀.î.ìpel.ĕ.îmaǎbɛ.ɛ̌n.ìpanda
b. (-‾ -‾_‾ __- ‾-‾_‾ _--)
c. mɔtó siǎ mɔ̀ .í .ì pel.ĕ .í maǎ mbɛl.ɛ̌ n.ì panda
d. truck drive person the not road the on watch neg. carefully
e. The driver did not watch the road well.

18. a. `fa-miamɔtó.î`wìlin.ì`patɛ́.îhu
b. (- ---‾‾ -- - - ‾‾_)
c. (.ì) fa mia mɔtó .í (.ì) pilî n.ì (yɛ̀) patá .í hu
d. it for it-is truck the past throw did is mud the in
e. Therefore the truck threw itself into the mud.

19. a. `fa-miamɔtó.î`gbân.i`patɛ́.îhu
b. (_ ---‾‾ - _- ‾‾_)
c. (.ì) fa mia mɔtó .í (.ì) kpá n.i (yɛ̀) patá .í hu
d. it for it-is truck the past stick did is mud the in
e. Therefore the truck stuck in the mud.

20. a. pasênjɛ.îsiàl.ɔ́`loŏn.ì
b. (-‾ ---_ ‾ -‾_)
c. pasênja .í sià l.ɔ́ (.ì) toŏ n.ì
d. passenger the pl. emph. past stand did
e. The passengers are standing...

21. a. tǎ`mɔtó.îgbê
b. (‾ -‾‾ ╲)
c. tǐ (.à) mɔtó .í kpê
d. they will truck the look-at
e. ...looking at the truck.

22. a. mǔâ.á`pu-bla.a`fel.élɔ́mà
b. (-‾- _ -- - ‾‾-)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) pu bla.a (yɛ̀) fel.é tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are white people is two see at
e. We see two white people...

23. a. kɛ́fûla-bla.a`fel.é
b. (‾ ‾ - _ _ _ ‾)
c. kɛ́ fûla bla.a (yɛ̀) fel.é
d. and Fulani people is two
e. ...and two Fulani's...

24. a. kɛ́mɛ̀ndé-bla.a`ná.âni
b. (‾ _ ‾ ‾ _ ‾ ‾ _)
c. kɛ́ mɛndé bla.a (yɛ̀) ná.âni
d. and Mende people is four
e. ...and four Mende's.

25. a. núm.u,bí.ìjìa.ìl.ɔ́.àmbɛ.ɛ̌`.ɛ́`pel.ě.îma,
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ _ _ _ _ ‾_ _‾ ‾ _ _‾ _)
c. núm.u bí .ì siǎ n.ì l.ɔ́ .à mbɛl.ɛ̌ l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) pel.ɛ̌ .í ma
d. person you not drive <u>neg.</u> <u>emph</u>. with care <u>emph.</u> is road the on
e. Mister, if you do not drive carefully on the road...

26. a. hindâ-nyamu-weka.àbímàǎlǐ`l.ɔ́
b. (_ ‾ _ _ _ _ _‾_ _‾ _)
c. hindâ nyámu peka .à bí maǎ ndǐ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. business bad other will you on go is <u>emph.</u>
e. ...other bad things will meet you.

<u>Slide Nine: The Bus in The Bush</u>

1. a. àmǔ`nɛnɛ.ɛ̂yeépèkɛ.íjîhugbêlɛ̀
b. (_‾ _ _ ‾_‾_ _‾‾_ ‾ _)
c. à mǔ (?̀) nɛnɛ .í yeé peka .í jí hu kpê lɛ̀
d. let us picture the : other this in look-at now
e. Let us look into this other picture...

2. a. mǔ`tɔ́gbɔ̂.ɔ́`wé.eng.a
b. (‾ - - - _ _ _)
c. mǔ ((?̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ (.ì) pé.e ng.a
d. that-we it see what <u>emph.</u> <u>past</u> do has
e. ...so we can see what has happened...

3. a. mɔtó.îyeépèkɛ.íjî-gama
b. (- ¯¯ -¯- - ¯¯ - -)
c. mɔtó .í yeé peka .í jí kama
d. vehicle the : other this to
e. ...to this other vehicle.

4. a. pel.ĕ.îyeépèkɛ.íjímŭ`tɔ́mà,
b. (- - ¯-¯- - ¯¯¯ - _)
c. pel.ĕ .í yeé peka .í jí mŭ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma
d. road the : other this we are it see at
e. see # 6

5. a. .ìgbapel.ĕîyeéhàla-gee.énâma,
b. (- - - -¯-¯-- --¯¯ _)
c. .ì gba pel.ĕ .í yeé hala yee .í ná ma
d. it different road the : first one that from
e. see # 6

6. a. mŭ`tɔ́n.ì
b. (¯ ¯ _)
c. mŭ ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ n.ì
d. we past it see did
e. This other road that we are looking at is different from the first one we saw.

7. a. gbɛ̂va
b. (¯ _)
c. gbɛ̂ fa
d. what for
e. Why?

8. a. patágbí.ìpel.ĕ.îyeéjîtáma
b. (- ¯ ¯ - - - ¯_¯¯- -)
c. patá gbí .ì pel.ĕ .í yeé jí tá ma
d. mud any not road the : this one on
e. There is not any mud on this one...

9. a. kέmŭâ.á`mɔtó-yekalɔ́mà
b. (‾ -‾‾ -‾ ‾- ‾ _)
c. kέ mŭ â l.ɔ́ (yὲ) mɔtó peka tɔ́ ma
d. but we - emph. are vehicle other see at
e. ...but we see another vehicle.

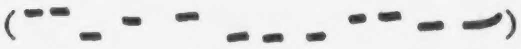
10. a. mɔtó.íjíbí`tɔ́.a`.ábȇ
b. (- ‾‾‾‾ ‾‾ -↘)
c. mɔtó .í jí bí ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yὲ) l.ɔ́ bȇ
d. vehicle this you past it see have is emph. you-say
e. It looks as if this vehicle...

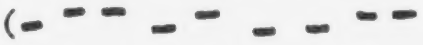
11. a. guámȇntí.îwó-mia
b. (-‾‾ ‾‾- -_)
c. guámȇntí .í ngó mia
d. government the voice it-is
e. ...is the government's...

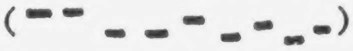
12. a. .ɔ̀tεȇnganúm.u-yekawó-mia
b. (- -‾ _ ‾ ‾ ‾ _‾ ‾ _)
c. .ɔ̀ tεȇnga núm.u peka ngó mia
d. or perhaps person other own it-is
e. ...or some other person's.

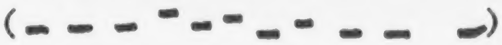
13. a. kέmɔ̀tójìămɔ̀.íjîbέ,
b. (‾ - ‾ _‾ _‾‾ ⌣)
c. kέ mɔtó siă mɔ̀ .í jí bέ
d. but bus drive person this also
e. But this bus driver also...

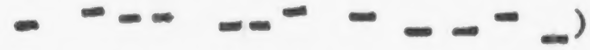
14. a. .ìpel.ĕ.îmaăbε.ĕn.ì
b. (- - -‾ _‾ _ ‾ _)
c. .ì pel.ĕ .í maă mbεl.ĕ n.ì
d. he-not road the on watch neg.
e. ...did not watch the road.

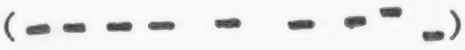
15. a. kíâpatágbí.ìpel.ě.íjîtáma,
b. ()
c. kíâ patá gbí .ì pel.ě .í jí tá ma
d. since mud any not road this one on
e. Since there is no mud on this road...

16. a. mɔtó.î.ìgbân.ì`patáhu
b. ()
c. mɔtó .í .ì kpá n.ì (yɛ̀) patá hu
d. bus the not stuck neg. is mud in
e. ...the bus is not stuck in mud.

17. a. kɛ́jîfamɔ̀tójìǎmɔ̀.î (no fall)
b. ()
c. kɛ́ jí fa mɔtó siǎ mɔ̀ .í
d. but this for bus drive person the
e. But because this bus driver...

18. a. .ìpel.ě.îmaǎbɛ.ɛ̆n.ìpanda,
b. ()
c. .ì pel.ě .í maǎ mbɛl.ɛ̆ n.ì panda
d. he-not road the on watch neg. carefully
e. ...did not watch the road carefully...

19. a. ngǐ-mɔto.î`gbuǎ.i`l.ɔ́`pelě.îma
b. ()
c. ngǐ mɔtó .í (.ì) kpuǎ n.i (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) pel.ě .í ma
d. his bus the past leave did is emph. is road the on
e. ...his bus left the road...

20. a. kɛ̀.ìwìling.a`ndɔgbɔ̆.îhu
b. ()
c. kɛ̀ .ì pilî ng.a (yɛ̀) ndɔgbɔ̆ .í hu
d. and it-past throw has is bush the into
e. ...and tumbled into the bush.

21. a. ngewɔ̂ɔ-mia`ngǐbáwon.ì
b. (-¯_ -- -¯¯ _)
c. ngewɔ̂ɔ mia (.ì) ngǐ mbáw.o n.ì
d. God it-is past him save did
e. God saved him.

22. a. ngúl.uyὲl.ɔ́`loǒn.ìngǐgu.lɔ́
b. (¯ ¯ _ - -¯ _ - _ -)
c. ngǔl.u yὲ l.ɔ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yὲ)) ngǐ ku.lɔ́
d. tree was emph.past stand did is him in-front
e. There was a tree standing in front of him.

23. a. yeéngúl.i.íjî-mia.ìwilî.ì`hu
b. (-¯ ¯ ¯¯¯ -- - - ¯_ -)
c. yeé ngúl.u .í jí mia .ì pilî n.ì (.ì) hu
d. : tree this it-is he past threw did it into
e. It was this tree he threw himself into...

24. a. kὲmɔtó.î`gbâ.a
b. (- -¯¯ - _)
c. kὲ mɔtó .í (.ì) kpá ng.a
d. and bus the past stick has
e. ...and the bus has stuck.

25. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ágbɔ̀unmǔ`tɔ́mà
b. (¯ --¯ -- ¯ - _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ gbɔun mǔ ((yὲ)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma
d. what it-is emph. again we are it see at
e. see # 26

26. a. `nɛnɛ.íjîhu
b. (- -¯¯ _)
c. (yὲ) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. is picture this in
e. What else are we looking at in this picture?

27. a. mǔâ.á̀ gél.egênjɛ.îlɔ́mà
b. (- ‾ - - - - - - - _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) gél.egênja .í tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are bicycle the see at
e. We are seeing a bicycle.

28. a. gél.egênjɛ.íjî-miapu-bla.a.á
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ - - - _ _ _ _ _ -)
c. gél.egênja .í jí mia pu bla.a .í
d. bicycle this it-is white person the
e. It is this bicycle that white people...

29. a. tǎ̀tòl.i.àbásîku.í
b. (‾ - - - ‾ ‾ - -)
c. tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à básîku .í
d. they will it name with bicycle the
e. ...call básîku.í (bicycle).

30. a. mɔtó.î-biyɛ.îyeépèkɛ.î-mia
b. (- ‾ ‾ - - ‾ - ‾ - - ‾ _ _)
c. mɔtó .í mbiyɛ̂ .í yeé peka .í mia
d. vehicle the name the : other the it-is
e. The bus's other name...

31. a. ̀.àgɔ.ɔná.ani.í
b. (_ - - ‾ ‾ ‾ ‾)
c. (yɛ̀) .à kɔ́w.ɔ ná.ân.i
d. is as foot four
e. ...is gɔ.ɔná.ani.í (four wheeler).

32. a. gél.egênjɛ.îtá,tâ-miamǎ̀tòl.i.àgɔ.ɔfél.e.í
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ - - _ - _ _ ‾ _ _ - - ‾ - -)
c. gél.egênja .í tá t â mia mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à kɔ́w.ɔ fel.é .í
d. bicycle the one it - it-is we will it name with foot two the
e. The bicycle is the one we call gɔ.ɔfél.e.í (bicycle).

33. a. kɛ́námŭlóngɔ̀,
b. (¯ ¯ _¯ _)
c. kɛ́ ná mŭ ndó ngɔ̀
d. but that which our desire is
e. But it is our desire...

34. a. mú`kɛ́`nɛnɛ.íjîhu,
b. (¯ ¯ _ _ - - _)
c. mŭ ((?)) (.ì) kɛ́ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. that-we it show is picture this in
e. ...that we show in this picture...

35. a. tâ-mia`.àjí
b. (¯ -- _¯)
c. t â mia (yɛ̀) .à jí
d. it - it-is is as this
e. ...this:...

36. a. kɛ̀pel.ĕ.îsiàtǐgbotŏngɔ̀
b. (- - - ¯-_¯ _ - _)
c. kɛ̀ pel.ĕ .í sià tǐ kpotŏ ngɔ̀
d. that road the pl. their plenty is
e. ...there are many roads.

37. a. yeélási.îsiàtǐgbotŏngɔ̀
b. (_- - - - -_¯ _ - _)
c. yeé lási .í sià tǐ kpotŏ ngɔ̀
d. : type the pl. their plenty is
e. There are many types of them.

38. a. yeénâsià.ánàtǐgbékpengɔ̀
b. (_- ¯ -_- _ _¯ ¯ _)
c. yeé ná sià l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà tǐ kpékpe ngɔ̀
d. : those emph. is there they good are
e. Some there are good.

39. a. yeénâsià.ánàtǐnyámungɔ̀
b. (-‾‾-_-__‾ ‾ _)
c. yeé ná sià 1.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà tǐ nyámu ngɔ̀
d. : those emph. are there their bad is
e. Some there are bad.

40. a. núm.ubí.ìbɛ.ɛ̌.ɛ`1.ɔ́.àjiǎ-la
b. (‾ ‾‾ ___‾ - ___\)
c. núm.u bí .ì mbɛl.ɛ̌ n.ì (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́ .à siǎ la
d. person you not take-care neg. is emph. with walk-ing
e. Mister, if you are not careful when walking...

41. a. `pel.ě.íjîsiàma`mɛndé-1ɔɔl.ɛ.îhu,
b. (- - ‾‾-__ - ‾‾--‾ _)
c. (yɛ̀) pel.ě .í jí sià ma (yɛ̀) mɛndé ndɔɔ́1.ɔ̂ .í hu
d. is road these on is Mɛnde country the in
e. ...on these roads in Mende country...

42. a. bílɛ̀vû.î.àyɛ̀bíyé-ngaw.u.í`hu`1.ɔ́
b. (‾_‾-__-- - -- _ -)
c. bí ndɛvû .í .à yɛ̀ bí ngé-ngaw.u .í ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) hu (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. your life the will be your finger-nail the is it in is emph.
e. ...your life will be in your hands.

Slide Ten: The Fishermen and The Water

1. a. nyɛ́gbɛ́blà.a.â`.átàánjɛ̀ɛ̌.í
b. (‾ ‾ __‾ -_- _-‾)
c. nyɛ́ kpɛ́ blà.a .í (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́ taá njaǎ .í
d. fish catch person the is emph. and water the
e. 'Fishermen and Water'

2. a. nungâ.a.átǐ`lolɛ́-mia.átǐ`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
b. (_ ‾--- _- -_-- __-- _)
c. nungâ.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́ mia 1.ɔ́ tǐ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. people the they are how-many it-is emph. they are picture this in
e. How many people are there in this picture?

3. a. nungâ.a.átǐ`wɛ́-ita`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
   b. (- ¯ - - - - - _ _ _ - - _)
   c. nungâ.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) wɛ́-ita (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
   d. people the they are six are picture this in
   e. There are six people in this picture.

4. a. kɛ́nyɛ-bla.a.átǐ`lolɛ́tǐ`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
   b. (¯ ¯ ¯ - - - _ - - _ _ - - _)
   c. kɛ́nyɛ bla.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́ tǐ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
   d. foreign person the they are how-many they are picture this in
   e. How many foreigners are there in this picture?

5. a. kɛ́nyɛ-bla.a.átǐ`fel.é
   b. (¯ ¯ ¯ - - - _ -)
   c. kɛ́nyɛ bla.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) fel.é
   d. foreign person the they are two
   e. There are two foreigners.

6. a. yeékɛ́nyɛ-blɛ.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`gbùa.apul.ɔ́
   b. (_¯ ¯ ¯ ¯ - - - - _ ¯ _ _ _ _ -)
   c. yeé kɛ́nyɛ bla.a .í jí sià tǐ (.ì) kpuǎ ng.a pu l.ɔ́
   d. : foreign people these they <u>past</u> exit have England <u>emph.</u>
   e. These foreigners are from white man's country.

7. a. mɛndé-bla.a.átǐ`lolɛ́tǐ`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
   b. (_ ¯ ¯ - - - _ - - _ _ - - _)
   c. mɛndé bla.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́ tǐ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
   d. Mende people the they are how-many they are picture this in
   e. How many Mendes are there in this picture?

8. a. mɛndé-bla.a.átǐ`ná.ânitǐ`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
   b. (_ ¯ ¯ - - - - - _ ¯ - - - - _)
   c. mɛndé bla.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) ná.âni tǐ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
   d. Mende people the they are four they are picture this in
   e. There are four Mendes in this picture.

9. a. gbɛ̂-mɔmia.á̀.ànúm.u.ínâ (no fall)
b. (¯ - - -¯ _¯ ¯ ¯ ¯)
c. gbɛ̂ mɔ mia l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) .à núm.u .í ná
d. what person it-is emph. is as person that
e. see # 10

10. a. `heǐn.ì`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
b. (-¯ - - -¯¯ _)
c. (.ì) heǐ n.ì (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. past sit did is picture this in
e. What kind of people are seated in this picture?

11. a. mɛndé-mɔ`ye.lál.ɔ́nà`heǐn.ì
b. (_ ¯ ¯ _ ¯ ¯ _ -¯ _)
c. mɛndé mɔ̀ (yɛ̀) nge.lá l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà (.ì) heǐ n.ì
d. Mɛnde person is one emph. is there past sit did
e. One Mende is seated there...

12. a. kɛ́pù-mɔ`ye.lá
b. (¯ - - - ¯)
c. kɛ́ pu mɔ (yɛ̀) nge.lá
d. and white person is one
e. ...and one white man.

13. a. pu-mɔ.î`heǐn.ì`l.ɔ́`njɛɛ̌.îgbla.á
b. (_ - ¯ -¯ _ ¯ --¯ _ ¯)
c. pu mɔ̀ .í (.ì) heǐ n.ì(yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) njaa .í kplang.á
d. white person the past sit did is emph. is water the near
e. The white man is sitting near the water.

14. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ánùngɛ̂.ɛ.ínâsiàtǐ`pé.emà
b. (¯ --¯_ ¯----_¯ - - _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ nungâ.a .í ná sià tǐ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pé.e ma
d. what it-is emph. people those they are it do at
e. What are those people doing?

15. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`heǐn.ì`l.ɔ́
b. (- ‾ - - - -_- -‾ _ -)
c. nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ (.ì) heǐ n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. people these they <u>past</u> sit did is <u>emph.</u>
e. These people are sitting...

16. a. tǐtɛɛ̂nga
b. (‾ -‾ _)
c. tǐ tɛɛ̂nga
d. their some
e. ...some of them.

17. a. tǐtɛɛ̂ngatǐ`loǒ.ì`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ -‾ _‾ -‾_ -)
c. tǐ tɛɛ̂nga tǐ (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. their some they <u>past</u> stand did is <u>emph.</u>
e. Some of them are standing.

18. a. tǐ`fel.émbòmɛ̌.ítǐyêya
b. (‾ - ‾ - -‾ _-_)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) fel.é mbomǎ .í ((yɛ̀)) tǐ ngêya
d. they are two net the is their possession
e. Two of them have a net.

19. a. yeénâsiàmǔ.ùnâgɔ̀.ɔ.ɔ̀
b. (-‾‾-_‾ _‾ - - -)
c. yeé ná sià mǔ .ì ná kɔ́l.ɔ n.ì
d. : those we not that know <u>neg.</u>
e. see # 20

20. a. tǐ`pé.emà
b. (‾ - - _)
c. tǐ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pé.e ma
d. they are it do at
e. They are doing it.

21. a. mǔâ.á`bomu-lɛndɛlɔ́mà
b. (-‾‾ - - - -‾_)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) bomu ndɛndɛ̌ tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are Sherbro boat see at
e. We are seeing a Sherbro boat.

22. a. bomu-lɛndɛ.íjî-mia
b. (- - - - ‾‾ __)
c. bomu ndɛndɛ̌ .í jí mia
d. Sherbro boat this it-is
e. It is this Sherbro boat...

23. a. nungâ.a.átǎ`nyɛ́gbɛ́la
b. (- ‾--- - - -)
c. nungâ.a .í tǐ (.à) nyɛ́ kpɛ́ ((.ì)) la
d. people the they will fish chase it with
e. ...that people fish with.

24. a. njɛɛ̌.íjítǐ`nyɛ́.îgbɛ́mà`hu
b. (--‾‾‾ -- - _ _)
c. njaǎ .í jí tǐ (yɛ̀) nyɛ́ .í kpɛ́ ma (.ì) hu
d. water this they are fish the chase at it in
e. This water they are fishing in...

25. a. .ìgbanjɛɛ̌.îyeépèkɛ.îsiàma
b. (_ - --‾_‾_ _‾-__)
c. .ì gba njaǎ .í yeé peka .í sià ma
d. it different water the : other the pl. from
e. ...is different from other waters.

26. a. gbɛva,njɛɛ̌.íjîtágbòyɛ̂.î-mia
b. (- - --‾‾- _‾- __)
c. gbɛva njaǎ .í jí tá gboyâ .í mia
d. because water this very ocean the it-is
e. Because this water is the ocean.

27. a. yeénjɛ̀ɛ̌.íjî-miandɛndɛ̌.ínâsià
b. (-‾ --‾‾ -- - -‾‾-_)
c. yeé njaǎ .í jí mia ndɛndɛ̌ .í ná sià
d. : water this it-is boat those
e. see # 30

28. a. tǎ`gbuǎ`pu,
b. (‾ -‾ _)
c. tǐ (.à) kpuǎ (yɛ̀) pu
d. they will exit is England
e. see # 30

29. a. tǎ`wà`mɛndé
b. (‾ _ _ -)
c. tǐ (.à) pǎ (yɛ̀) Mɛndé
d. they will come is Mende country
e. see # 30

30. a. tǎ`jiǎ`ma
b. (‾ -‾ _)
c. tǐ (.à) siǎ (.ì) ma
d. they will travel it on
e. This is the water that boats travel on when they come out of the white-man's country.

31. a. mǔâ.á`ŋanyǎ-kpa.a.âlɔ́mà
b. (-‾‾ - - ‾---_)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ŋanyǎ-kpa.a .í tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are beach the see at
e. We see the beach.

32. a. bí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂,ng.lângà.a
b. (‾ -- -\ ‾ __)
c. bí ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ bɛ̂ ngî.la ngà.a
d. you past it see have is emph.you-say dog pl.
e. It looks as if dogs...

33. a. `heǐn.ì`ŋanyě.îhu
b. (-‾ - -́ - ‾ _)
c. (.ì) heǐ n.ì (yè) ŋanyǎ .í hu
d. past sit did is sand the in
e. ...are sitting in the sand...

34. a. `ndɛndɛ̌.íjîwôoma
b. (- - ‾ ‾ - _ _)
c. (yɛ̀) ndɛndɛ̌ .í jí pôoma
d. is boat this behind
e. ...behind this boat.

Slide Eleven: In The Village

1. a. mîl.ɔ́múnàlɔ́mà
b. (‾ - - _ - _)
c. mî l.ɔ́ mǔ ((yɛ̀)) nà tɔ́ ma
d. where emph. we are there see at
e. What place are we looking at?

2. a. mǔ`fulɛ.îhul.ɔ́lɔ́mà
b. (‾ - - ‾ - ‾ ‾ _)
c. mǔ (yɛ̀) fula .í hu l.ɔ́ tɔ́ ma
d. we are village the in emph. see at
e. We see the inside of the village...

3. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́kínimǔ`tɔ́mà`fulɛ.íjîhu
b. (‾ - - - - - _ - - ‾ ‾ _)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ kíni mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) fula .í jí hu
d. what emph. all we are it see at is village this in
e. What all do we see in the village?

4. a. mǔâ.á`tɔlû-wul.i.îsiàlɔ́mà
b. (-‾ - _ ‾ - - ‾ - _ - _)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) tɔlû ngúl.u .í sià tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are coconut tree the pl. see at
e. We see coconut trees.

5. a. mǔâ.á`pɔ̂.ɔ-wɛ.ɛ`saw.álɔ́mà
   b. (-‾- - _ _ _ _ ‾‾_)
   c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) pɔ̂l.ɔ pɛ́l.ɛ (yɛ̀) saw.á tɔ́ ma
   d. we - emph. are mud house is three see at
   e. We see three mud houses.

6. a. pɔ̂.ɔ-wɛ.ɛ`saw.ɛ́.íjîsià
   b. (‾ - -- - ‾‾‾-_)
   c. pɔ̂l.ɔ pɛ́l.ɛ (yɛ̀) saw.á .í jí sià
   d. mud house is three these
   e. see # 8

7. a. kpitǐ.î-mia
   b. (- -‾ _ _)
   c. kpitǐ .í mia
   d. grass the it-is
   e. see # 8

8. a. `tɛ̀ngɔ̀tǐmahú
   b. (- -‾ _ -)
   c. (.ì) tɛ́ ngɔ̀ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ mahú
   d. it lift is is them above
   e. These three mud houses are thatched with grass.

9. a. mǔâ.á`pâni-wɛ.ɛlɔ́mà`loǒn.ì
   b. (-‾- - _ _ _‾ _ _ -_)
   c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) pâni pɛ́l.ɛ tɔ́ ma (.ì) toǒ n.ì
   d. we - emph. are pan house see at past stand did
   e. We see an iron roofed house standing...

10. a. `kpitǐ-wɛ.ɛ.ɛ́jîsiàwɔ̂oma
    b. (- - ‾--- -_ ‾__)
    c. (yɛ̀) kpitǐ pɛ́l.ɛ .í jí sià pɔ̂oma
    d. is grass house these behind
    e. ...behind these grass houses.

11. a. tâógbɔ̀ma,mǔâ.á`pɔ̂.ɔ-we.elɔ́mà
b. (‾- _ _ -‾‾ - _ _ _‾ _)
c. tâó gbɔma mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) pɔ̂l.ɔ pel.ě tɔ́ ma
d. and again we - emph. are mud road see at
e. And again we see a mud road.

12. a. pɔ̂.ɔ-we.e.éjîhu,
b. (‾ - - - ‾‾ -)
c. pɔ̂l.ɔ pel.ě .í jí hu
d. mud road this in (down)
e. Down this mud road...

13. a. múnàgbêng.a`.ákûhama,
b. (‾ - ‾ _ ‾‾ _ _)
c. mǔ ((.ì)) nà kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ kûha ma
d. we past there look have is emph. long on
e. ...if we look far...

14. a. mǎ`ndɔgbɔ̌.îlɔ́`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ - - ‾- -)
c. mǔ (.à) ndɔgbɔ̌ .í tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we will forest the see is emph.
e. ...we will see the forest.

15. a. mǔ`ngel.ě.îyagbêng.a`.á
b. (‾ - - ‾- ‾ _ -)
c. mǔ (.ì) ngel.ě .í nga kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we past sky the on look have is emph.
e. If we look at the sky...

16. a. mǎ`ngel.ě.îlɔ́`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ - - ‾- -)
c. mǔ (.à) ngel.ě .í tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we will sky the see is emph.
e. ...we will see the sky.

17. a. ngel.ě.íjîyeénà
b. (‒ ‒ ‾‾‒‾_)
c. ngel.ě .í jí yeé nà
d. sky this how thus
e. How is this sky?

18. a. ngel.ě.íjîbu.lûngɔ̀
b. (‒ ‒ ‾‾‒ ‾ _)
c. ngel.ě .í jí bu.1û ngɔ̀
d. sky this blue is
e. This sky is blue.

19. a. bí`nɛnɛ.íjîgbêng.a`.á
b. (‾ ‒‒‾‾ ‾ _ ‒)
c. bí (.ì) nɛnɛ .í jí kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. you past scene this look-at have is emph.
e. If you look at this scene...

20. a. .àkpíndi.í,míândó
b. (_ ‾ ‾‾ ‾‾ ‒)
c. .à kpíndi .í míândó
d. at night the there
e. ...at night...

21. a. fofôgbí.ìnà,
b. (‒‾ ‾ _ _)
c. fofô gbí .ì nà
d. light any it-not there
e. ...no light is there...

22. a. tɛɛ̂ngabá`ndě`1.ɔ́
b. (‒‾ _‾ ‾ ‒)
c. tɛɛ̂nga bí ((.à)) (.ì) ndě (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. perhaps you will it say is emph.
e. ...you might say...

23. a. bɛ̂,`ligbi.ingɔ̀
b. (╲ ‒‒‒‒)
c. bɛ̂ (.ì) ligbil.i ngɔ̀
d. you-saying it dark is
e. ...it is dark.

24. a. mɛndé-bla.a.átǐ〉ngel.ě.îgbêng.a`.á,
b. (_ ‾ ‾‒‒‒ _ _‾‒ _ ‒)
c. mɛndé bla.a .í tǐ (.ì) ngel.ě .í kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. Mende people the they past sky the look have is emph.
e. If the Mendes look at the sky...

25. a. tǐ`tɔ́.a`.á,tɛ̂kɛ,`ligbi.ingɔ̀,
b. (¯ ¯¯ – – _ – – – –)
c. tǐ ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ tɛ̂ kɛ (.ì) ligbil.i ngɔ̀
d. they past it see have is emph. they say that it dark is
e. ...if they have seen it and sense that it is dark...

26. a. tǎ`ndě`lɔ́
b. (¯ – –)
c. tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) ndě (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. they will it say is emph.
e. ...they will say...

27. a. tɛ̂,njɛɛ̌.îlóngɔ̀.íwǎ
b. (\ – –¯– –¯¯)
c. tɛ̂ njaǎ .í ndó ngɔ̀ .í pǎ
d. they-saying water the desire is that-it come
e. ...that the rain wants to come.

28. a. gbɜ̂.ɔ́gbɔ̀mamǔ`tɔ́mà`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
b. (¯¯ – –¯ – _ _ –¯¯_)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ gbɔma mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. what emph. else we are it see at is picture this in
e. What else do we see in this picture?

29. a. ha.ǐ-yekagbí.ìnà
b. (– – ¯ – ¯ – –)
c. han.ǐ peka gbí .ì nà
d. thing other any not there
e. There is nothing...

30. a. náhîmǔyà.andágɛ́n.ì
b. (¯¯¯ _ _ ¯¯ _)
c. náhî mǔ yà.a ndá kɛ́ n.ì
d. which we have name show not
e. ...which we have not shown the name of.

Slide Twelve: The Three School Boys

1. a. kaâ-lopo`saw.έ.îsià
   b. (-¯ - - - ¯ ¯ -_)
   c. kaâ ndopô (yὲ) saw.á .í sià
   d. study child is three the pl.
   e. 'The Three School Boys'

2. a. yeénì-mia.ámútǐlɔ́mà`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
   b. (-¯- --¯¯ _¯ _ --¯¯ _)
   c. yeé nì mia l.ɔ́ mǔ ((yὲ)) tǐ tɔ́ ma (yὲ) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
   d. who pl. it-is emph. we are them see at is picture this in
   e. Who do we see in this picture?

3. a. kaâ-lopo.îsià-mia
   b. (-¯ - - ¯ - _ __)
   c. kaâ ndopô .í sià mia
   d. study child the pl. it-is
   e. see # 4

4. a. mútǐlɔ́mà`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
   b. (¯ _¯ _ - - ¯¯ _)
   c. mǔ ((yὲ)) tǐ tɔ́ ma (yὲ) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
   d. we are them see at is picture this in
   e. We see school boys in this picture.

5. a. kaâ-lopo.ínâ`loǒn.ìmǔgɔw.ɔ̌ma
   b. (-¯ - - ¯¯ _¯ _¯_ _ ¯)
   c. kaâ ndopô .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yὲ)) mǔ kɔw.ɔ̌ ma
   d. study child that past stand did is our left on
   e. see # 6

6. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ángǐyêya
   b. (¯ --¯ _¯ _)
   c. gbɛ mía l.ɔ́ ((yὲ)) ngǐ ngêya
   d. what it-is emph. is his possession
   e. What does the boy standing on our left have?

7. a. ndopô.ínâ`loǒn.ìmǔgɔw.ɔ̌ma,
   b. (– ‾ – – – ‾ – ‾ – – ‾)
   c. ndopô .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yὲ)) mǔ kɔw.ɔ̌ ma
   d. child that past stand did is our left on
   e. That child standing on our left,...

8. a. ngǐyéjamamǔâ.á`kpɔnigoje.îlɔ́mà
   b. (– ‾ ‾ ‾ – ‾ – – – – – ‾ – _)
   c. ngǐ ngéja ma mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yὲ) kpɔnigojo .í tɔ́ ma
   d. his right on we - emph. are egg plant the see at
   e. ...we see an egg plant in his right hand.

9. a. ngǐgɔw.ɔ̌ma
   b. (‾ – – ‾)
   c. ngǐ kɔw.ɔ̌ ma
   d. his left on
   e. In his left hand...

10. a. mǔâ.á`fakâ.i.îlɔ́mà
   b. (– ‾ ‾ – ‾ – – – _)
   c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yὲ) fakâl.i .í tɔ́ ma
   d. we - emph. are pawpaw the see at
   e. ...we see a pawpaw.

11. a. gbȇ-mia.á`ndopô.íjîma
   b. (‾ – – ‾ – ‾ – – _)
   c. gbȇ mia l.ɔ́ (yὲ) ndopô .í jí ma
   d. what it-is emph. is child this on
   e. What is this child wearing?

12. a. ndomǎ-gole.îtaá
   b. (– – ‾ – – _ ‾)
   c. ndomǎ kolě .í taá
   d. shirt white the and
   e. see # 13

13. a. bɛlɛ-guti.î-miangǐma
b. (-- --¯---_¯)
c. bɛlɛ kútu .í mia ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. trousers short the it-is is him on
e. He has on a white shirt and short trousers.

14. a. gbɛ̂.ɔ́`ndopɔ̂.íjîgɔ́.ɔhu
b. (¯- _ ¯--___)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ndopɔ̂ .í jí kɔ́w.ɔ hu
d. what emph. is child this foot in
e. What does this boy have on his feet? ('What is in this child's feet?')

15. a. ha.ǐgbí.ìndopɔ̂.íjîgɔ́.ɔhu
b. (-- ¯- -¯--_ --)
c. han.ǐ gbí .ì ndopɔ̂ .í jí kɔ́w.ɔ hu
d. thing any not child this feet in
e. This boy has nothing on his feet.

16. a. ndopɔ̂.îyeépèkɛ.ínâ`loǒn.ì`ndía
b. (- ¯-_-__ -- _- _ --)
c. ndopɔ̂ .í yeé peka .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) ndía
d. child the : other that past stand did is it in-middle
e. That other child standing in the middle...

17. a. gbɛ̂.ɔ́ngǐyêya
b. (¯- _-_)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngêya
d. what emph. is his possession
e. ...what does he have?

18. a. nɛɛ̂si.î-miandopɔ̂.íjî (no fall)
b. (_¯-- __ _¯--)
c. nɛɛ̂si .í mia ndopɔ̂ .í jí
d. pineapple the it-is child this
e. see # 19

19. a. `loǒn.ì`ndía ngǐyêya
b. (–‾ _ ‾‾ _ – _)
c. (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) ndía ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngêya
d. past stand did is it in-middle is his possession
e. This boy standing in the middle has a pineapple.

20. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́ngǐgɔ́.ɔhu
b. (‾ – _ – – –)
c. gbɛ̂ 1.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ kɔ́w.ɔ hu
d. what emph. is his foot in
e. What does he have on his feet?

21. a. gbɛ́ogbɛ̀gbí.ìngǐgɔ́.ɔhu
b. (‾‾ _ ‾ _ _ – – –)
c. gbɛ́ogbɛ̀ gbí .ì ngǐ kɔ́w.ɔ hu
d. absolutely nothing any not his foot in
e. There is absolutely nothing on his feet.

22. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ángǐma
b. (‾ – – ‾ _ –)
c. gbɛ̂ mia 1.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. what it-is emph. is him on
e. What is he wearing?

23. a. bɛlɛ-guti.îl.ɔ́ngǐmataápòló.í
b. (_ _ – – ‾ ‾ _ ‾ _ ‾ _ – –)
c. bɛlɛ kútu .í 1.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma taá poló .í
d. trousers short the emph. is him on and polo the
e. Short trousers and a polo shirt.

24. a. ndopô.ínâ`loǒn.ì`ndía
b. (_ ‾ – – _ ‾ _ – –)
c. ndopô .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) ndía
d. child that past stand did is it in-middle
e. That child standing in the middle...

25. a. ngǐgohúnὲε̌ngɔ̀.í?
b. (¯ -¯ _¯ _ -)
c. ngǐ kohú nεε̌ ngɔ̀ lé
d. his inside sweet is id.
e. ...is he happy...

26. a. .ɔ̀ngǐgohú.ìnὲεn.ì
b. (- ¯ _¯ --- -)
c. .ɔ̀ ngǐ kohú .ì nεε̌ n.ì
d. or his inside not sweet did
e. ...or is he not happy?

27. a. bí`tɔ́.a`.ábε̂,
b. (¯ -- - \)
c. bí (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yὲ) l.ɔ́ bε̂
d. you past see have is emph. you-saying
e. It looks as if...

28. a. ndopô.ínâ`loǒn.ì`ndíangǐgohúnὲε̌ngɔ̀
b. (- ¯-- _¯ _ --- _-_- _)
c. ndopô .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yὲ)) (.ì) ndía ngǐ kohú nεε̌ ngɔ̀
d. boy that past stand did is it in-middle his inside sweet is
e. ...that boy standing in the middle is happy.

29. a. gbεvatâ.á`yέl.εma
b. (- - ¯¯ - --)
c. gbεva t â l.ɔ́ (yὲ) ngέl.ε ma
d. because he - emph. is laugh at
e. Because he is laughing.

30. a. ándòpô.ínâ`loǒn.ìmǔyéjama
b. (¯ _ ¯-- _¯ __---)
c. á ndopô .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yὲ)) mǔ ngéja ma
d. how-about boy that past stand did is our right on
e. And how about that boy on our right?

31. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́ngǐyêya
b. (‾ ‾ _ - _)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngêya
d. what emph. is his possession
e. What does he have?

32. bí`tɔ́.a`.á,bɛ̂ (see # 27)

33. a. tɔlî.î-miangǐyêya
b. (- ‾ ‾ - - - ‾ _)
c. tɔlî .í mia ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngêya
d. coconut the it-is is his possession
e. He has a coconut.

34. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́ngǐma
b. (‾ ‾ _ -)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. what emph. is him on
e. What is he wearing?

35. a. poló.î-miangǐmatàá
b. (- ‾ ‾ - - - ‾ _ -)
c. poló .í mia ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma taá
d. polo the it-is is him on and
e. see # 36

36. a. bɛ̀lɛ-gbɔ.gbɔ.u.îyeékúti.í
b. (- - - - - ‾ _ - - - -)
c. bɛlɛ kpɔl.ǔ kpɔl.ǔ .í yeé kútu .í
d. trousers red red the : short the
e. He is wearing a polo shirt and red trousers, short ones.

37. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́ngǐgɔ́.ɔhu
b. (‾ ‾ _ - - -)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ kɔ́w.ɔ hu
d. what emph. is his foot in
e. What is on his feet?

38. a. ha.ǐgbí.ìngǐgɔ́.ɔhu
    b. (_ _ ‾ _ _ - - -)
    c. han.ǐ gbí .ì ngǐ kɔ́w.ɔ hu
    d. thing any not his foot in
    e. There is nothing on his feet.

39. a. ndopɔ̂.íjî`loǒn.ìmǔyéjama
    b. (_ ‾ - - _ - _ _ - - -)
    c. ndopɔ̂ .í jí (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) mǔ ngéja ma
    d. boy this <u>past</u> stand did is our right on
    e. This boy standing on our right...

40. a. ngǐgòhúnɛ̀ɛ̌ngɔ̀.í?tâbɛ́?
    b. (‾ - ‾ _ ‾ _ / ‾ /)
    c. ngǐ kohú nɛɛ̌ ngɔ̀ lé t â bɛ́
    d. his inside sweet is <u>id.</u> he - also
    e. ...is he happy too?

41. a. a.â.andopɔ̂.íjîbɛ́`loǒn.ìmǔgɔ.ɔ̌ma
    b. (_ - _ _ ‾ - ‾ - _ - _ - _ _ -)
    c. a.â.a ndopɔ̂ .í jí bɛ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) mǔ kɔw.ɔ̌ ma
    d. oh! child this too <u>past</u> stand did is our left on
    e. Oh, this child is on our left.

42. a. nyákàfâi
    b. (‾ _ - _)
    c. ngí kafâi
    d. me excuse
    e. Excuse me.

43. a. mǔyéjamangǐgohúnɛ̀ɛ̌ngɔ̀.í
    b. (_ - - - ‾ _ - _ - _ -)
    c. mǔ ngéja ma ngǐ kohú nɛɛ̌ ngɔ̀ lé
    d. our right on his inside sweet is <u>id.</u>
    e. The one on the right is happy.

44. a. tâbɛ́,tâ.á̀yɛ́l.ɛma
b. (‾ - ‾ - _ - -)
c. t â bɛ́ t â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ngɛ́l.ɛ ma
d. he - also he - emph. is smile on
e. He is smiling too.

45. a. tǐ̀lolɛ́-mia.átǐ̀yɛ́l.ɛma
b. (‾ _ ‾ ‾ - - - _ _ _)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́ mia l.ɔ́ tǐ (yɛ̀) ngɛ́l.ɛ ma
d. they are how-many it-is emph. they are smile at
e. How many of them are smiling?

46. a. tǐ̀fel.é-miatǐ̀yɛ́l.ɛma
b. (‾ _ ‾ ‾ _‾ _ - -)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) fel.é mia tǐ (yɛ̀) ngɛ́l.ɛ ma
d. they are two it-is they are smile at
e. Two of them are smiling.

47. a. àndopô.ínầloǒn.ìmǔgɔ.ɔ̌ma
b. (_ _ ‾ - ‾ _ ‾ _ ‾ _ _ -)
c. à ndopô .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) mǔ kɔw.ɔ̌ ma
d. what-about boy the that past stand did is our left on
e. What about that boy standing on our left?

48. a. ngǐgohúnɛ̀ɛ̌ngɔ̀.í?
b. (‾ _ ‾ _ - _ -)
c. ngǐ kohú nɛɛ̌ ngɔ̀ lé
d. his insides sweet are id.
e. Is he happy?

49. bí̀tɔ́.à.ábɛ̂ (see # 27)

50. a. ngǐgohú.ìnɛ̀ɛn.ì
b. (‾ _ ‾ _ _ _ _)
c. ngǐ kohú .ì nɛɛ̌ n.ì
d. his insides not sweet neg.
e. He is not happy.

51. a. gbɛvangǐyâmɛ.îgbényɔngɔ̀
b. (– – – ‾ – – – – _)
c. gbɛva ngǐ ngâma .í kpényɔ ngɔ̀
d. because his face the squint is
e. Because his face is sour.

52. a. ngí`yɛ̀gbɛ̂
b. (‾ _ \ )
c. ngí (.ì) yɛ̀ gbɛ̂
d. I past said what
e. What did I say?

53. a. ngɛ̂,ngǐyâmɛ.îgbényɔngɔ̀
b. (\ _ ‾ – – – – _)
c. ngɛ̂ ngǐ ngâma .í kpényɔ ngɔ̀
d. I-saying his face the sour is
e. I said his face is sour.

54. a. nungâ.atɛɛ̂ngatǎ`ndě`l.ɔ́tɛ̂
b. (– ‾ _ _ ‾ _ ‾ – – \ )
c. nungâ.a tɛɛ̂nga tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) ndě (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ tɛ̂
d. people some they will it say is emph. they-saying
e. Some people will say...

55. a. ngǐyâmɛ.îgbíndingɔ̀
b. (– ‾ – – – – _)
c. ngǐ ngâma .í kpíndi ngɔ̀
d. his face the dark is
e. ...that his face is dark.

56. a. wúnâgɔ́.ɔ`l.ɔ́kpíndi`lé?
b. (‾ ‾ – – _ – – /)
c. wǔ ((yɛ̀)) ná kɔ́w.ɔ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ kpíndi (yɛ̀) lé
d. you (pl.) are that know is emph. night is id.
e. Do you know what night is?

57. a. a.â.a,ha.ǐ.ínâkpíndi`lé
b. (_‾ _ _ _ ‾‾ - ‾ -)
c. a.â.a han.ǐ .í ná kpíndi (yɛ̀) lé
d. oh, thing the that night is id.
e. Oh, that thing which is night...

58. a. `pé.engɔ̀.î`lé
b. (‾ ‾ _ ‾ -)
c. (.ì) pé.e ngɔ̀ .í (yɛ̀) lé
d. it make is the is id.
e. ...is made...

59. a. kíâkpíndi.înà
b. (‾‾ - - - _)
c. kíâ kpíndi .í nà
d. like night the thus
e. ...like night...

60. a. .àwɛ.ɛ̌`tɛl.ǐngɔ̀kpi
b. (- - ‾ - ‾ _ _)
c. .à pɛl.ɛ̌ (.ì) tɛl.ǐ ngɔ̀ kpi
d. it-will stoop it black is very much
e. ...it will come down and is very dark.

61. a. fa-miandopô.ínângǐyâmɛ.ínâ (no fall)
b. (- -- - ‾-- _ ‾ - - -)
c. fa mia ndopô .í ná ngǐ ngâma .í ná
d. for it-is child that his face that
e. Since the face of that child...

62. a. `tɛ́ngɔ̀`hu
b. (‾ - -)
c. (.ì) tɛ́ ngɔ̀ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) hu
d. it lift is is it in
e. ...is raised from the inside...

63. a. mǎ`tò.i.àngamǎ-gbindi-mɔ
b. (‾ - - - - - ‾ - -)
c. mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à ngâma kpíndi mɔ̀
d. we will it name with face dark person
e. ...we call it a dark faced person.

64. a. mǔ`ndopɔ̂.ı́jîsiàwɔ̂omagbêng.a`.á,
   b. (¯ - ¯ - - - _ ¯ _ _ ¯ _ -)
   c. mǔ (.ı̀) ndopɔ̂ .ı́ jı́ sià pɔ̂oma kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
   d. we past boy these behind look-at have is emph.
   e. If we look behind these boys...

65. a. gbɛ̂.ɔ́mǎ`tɔ́
   b. (¯ - ¯ -)
   c. gbɛ̂ 1.ɔ́ mǔ ((.à)) (.ı̀) tɔ́
   d. what emph. we will it see
   e. ...what do we see?

66. a. mǎ`ngúl.ungà.alɔ́`1.ɔ́
   b. (¯ - - _ _ ¯ -)
   c. mǔ (.à) ngúl.u ngà.a tɔ́ (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
   d. we will tree pl. see is emph.
   e. We see trees.

67. a. ndopɔ̂.ı́jîsiàtı̌`jémbɛng.a`.á,kúna
   b. (_ ¯ - - - _ ¯ - - - - - -)
   c. ndopɔ̂ .ı́ jı́ sià tı̌ (.ı̀) sémbɛ ng.a (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́ kúna
   d. boy these they past grow have is emph. then
   e. When these boys have grown up...

68. a. tâ`wòte.àgbɛ̂-bla.a.ál.ɔ́
   b. (¯ _ _ _ ¯ _ _ ¯ ¯)
   c. tı̌ (.à) potɛ̂ .à gbɛ̂ bla.a .ı́ 1.ɔ́
   d. they will become as what people the emph.
   e. ...what kind of people will they be?

69. a. tǎ`wòte.àkpako.îsiàl.ɔ́
   b. (¯ _ _ _ _ _ ¯ - _ -)
   c. tı̌ (.à) potɛ̂ .à kpako .ı́ sià 1.ɔ́
   d. they will become as adult the pl. emph.
   e. They will become adults.

70. a. tǐ`kɔl.ɔ̌gaâlɛ̀.îmaǎdíhòǐng.a`.á,
b. (¯ - ¯-¯_¯--¯-- ¯ -)
c. tǐ (.ì) kɔl.ɔ̌ kaâ la .í maa dí hoǐ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. they past book read-ing the on heart hold have is emph.
e. If they stick to studying...

71. a. tǎ`wòte.àtòok.lɔ́-bla.al.ɔ́
b. (¯ ----- ¯ ¯--)
c. tǐ (.à) potê .à toǒ ku.lɔ́ blà.a l.ɔ́
d. they will turn into stand in-front person emph.
e. ...they will become leaders.

Slide Thirteen: All About Mothers

1. a. nungâ.a`lolɛ́-miatǐ`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
b. (- ¯_ -¯¯ -¯ --¯¯ _)
c. nungâ.a (yɛ̀) lolɛ́ mia tǐ (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. people are how-many it-is they are picture this in
e. How many people are in this picture?

2. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.îsiàtǐ`puú
b. (- ¯---_¯ _-)
c. nungâ.a .í sià tǐ (yɛ̀) puú
d. people the pl. they are ten
e. There are ten people.

3. a. àmútǐgba.âlɛ̀
b. (-¯¯ - ¯ _)
c. à mǔ ((?̀)) tǐ kpaw.â lɛ̀
d. let us them count now
e. Let us count them now.

4. a. àmútâtoȏmǔyéjama
b. (-¯¯ -¯ _---)
c. à mǔ tâtoȏ ((yɛ̀)) mǔ ngéja ma
d. let us begin is our right on
e. Let us begin on our right.

5. a. ndopô`ye.lá`loǒn.ì
b. (- ‾ -‾ -‾ _)
c. ndopô (yɛ̀) nge.lá (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. boy is one past stand did
e. One boy is standing...

6. a. ndomǎ-lɛl.i.íngǐma
b. (-- ‾ - - _ -)
c. ndomǎ tɛl.ǐ .í ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. shirt black the is him on
e. ...with a black shirt on.

7. a. yeék.lò-wo.o.ínâ`loǒn.ìngǐgbla.á,
b. (-‾ - --‾‾ -‾ -‾ _ -)
c. yeé ku.lo wol.o .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ kplang.á
d. : bit little that past stand did is him near
e. That little tiny one standing near him...

8. a. ndomǎ-gol.e.î-miangǐma
b. (- - ‾-‾ ___-)
c. ndomǎ kol.ě .í mia ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. shirt white the it-is is him on
e. ...has on a white shirt...

9. a. taábɛ̀lɛ-gutilɛ.lɛ.ǐ.í
b. (-‾ ----- --‾)
c. taá bɛlɛ kútu ((.ì)) tɛl.ǐ tɛl.ǐ .í
d. and trousers short the black black the
e. ...and very black short trousers.

10. a. mamɛ̂.ínâ`loǒn.ì
b. (-‾-- _- _)
c. mamâ .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. mother that past stand did
e. That mother standing...

11. a. yeésàw.a-mɔ.ínâ (no fall)
b. (-‾- - - ‾‾)
c. yeé saw.á mɔ̀ .í ná
d. : three person the that
e. ...that third person...

12. a. ndó.îl.ɔ́ngǐwôoma
b. (‾ ‾ - _‾--)
c. ndó .í l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ pôoma
d. child the emph. is her back
e. ...with a child on her back...

13. a. tâ-mia`kɛ̀n.i`ná.âni
b. (‾ -- - - ‾ ‾ _)
c. t â mia ((.ì)) (.ì) kɛ́ n.ì (yɛ̀) ná.âni
d. she - it-is past it show did is four
e. ...brought it to four.

14. a. yeépèkɛ.ínâbɛ́`loǒn.ìngǐgbla.á
b. (-‾ --‾‾- _‾_ ‾ _ -)
c. yeé peka .í ná bɛ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ kplang.á
d. : other that also past stand did is her near
e. Also, that other one standing near her...

15. a. ndó.îl.ɔ́ngǐwôoma
b. (‾ ‾ - _‾--)
c. ndó .í l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ pôoma
d. child the emph. is her back
e. ...with a child on her back.

16. a. tâ-mia`kɛ̀n.i`wɛ́-ita
b. (‾ --- - ‾ ‾ _)
c. t â mia ((.ì)) (.ì) kɛ́ n.ì (yɛ̀) wɛ́-ita
d. she - it-is past it show did is six
e. She brings it to six.

17. a. yenâgboun`loǒn.ìngǐgbla.á
b. (- ¯ - - -¯ - ¯ - -)
c. yenâ gboun (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ kplang.á
d. that-one again <u>past</u> stand did is is near
e. Another one is standing near her...

18. a. tâbɛ́,ndó.î1.ɔ́ngǐwôoma
b. (¯- - - - _ - _ _)
c. t â bɛ́ ndó .í 1.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ pôoma
d. she - also child the <u>emph.</u> is her back
e. ...also with a child on her back.

19. a. tâ-mia`kɛ̀.i.àwáyâkpa
b. (¯ -- ---¯¯ _)
c. t â mia ((.ì)) (.ì) kɛ́ n.ì .à wáyâkpa
d. she - it-is <u>past</u> it show did to eight
e. She brought it to eight.

20. a. mǔ`lew.ěng.a`.á`nyâpo.íjîma,
b. (¯ - - ¯ - -_-- _)
c. mǔ (.ì) tew.ě ng.a (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) nyâpo .í jí ma
d. we <u>past</u> pass have is <u>emph.</u> is woman this on
e. If we pass this woman...

21. a. mǎ`ndopô1ɔ́`1.ɔ́
b. (¯ _¯- _)
c. mǔ (.à) ndopô tɔ́ (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. we will child see is <u>emph.</u>
e. ...we will see a child...

22. a. ndomǎ-gbɔ.gbɔ.i.íngǐma
b. (- - ¯ --¯ _ -)
c. ndomǎ kpɔl.ǔ kpɔl.ǔ .í ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. shirt red red the is him on
e. ...with a red shirt on.

23. a. tâ-mia`wòten.i.àtá.u
b. (‾ -- ----_‾‾)
c. t â mia (.ì) potê n.i .à tál.u
d. she - it-is past turn did to nine
e. She brought it to nine.

24. a. ndopôwopǒmɔ̀l.ɔ́`loǒn.ì`ndopô.íjîgbla.á
b. (-‾ -‾_ ‾ _‾_ -‾-- _ -)
c. ndopô popǒ mɔ̀ l.ɔ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) ndopô .í jí kplang.á
d. child carry person emph. past stand did is child this near
e. A person carrying a child is standing near this child.

25. a. tâ-mia`kɛ̀.ì.àpuúmàhúyè.lá
b. (‾ -- ----‾-‾_ -)
c. t â mia ((.ì)) (.ì) kɛ́ n.ì .a puú mahú nge.lá
d. she - it-is past it show did to ten on one
e. She brought it to eleven.

26. a. wǔ`tɔ́.angí`ndɛ́.ɛ.îgulǎ.ì`l.ɔ́wɛ̀í
b. (‾ --- --‾_‾_‾_-)
c. wǔ ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a ngí (.ì) ndɛ́.ɛ .í kulǎ n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ wɛí
d. you past it see have I past lie the drop did is emph. then
e. You have seen it, I told a lie.

27. a. ngíyɛ̀gbê,wɛí
b. (‾ _ \ -‾)
c. ngí yɛ̀ gbê wɛí
d. I say what then
e. What did I say?

28. a. bê,tǐ`puú
b. (\‾ -‾)
c. bê tǐ (yɛ̀) puú
d. you-saying they are ten
e. You say there are ten.

29. a. kɛ́tǐ`lolɛ́
b. (‾‾ _‾)
c. kɛ́ tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́
d. and they are how-many
e. And how many are there?

30. a. tǐ`puúmàhúyè.lá *
b. (‾ -‾_‾ _ -)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) puú mahú nge.lá
d. there are ten on one
e. There are eleven.

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* see # 25. Actually no 'lie' was told.

31. a. mŭ`nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàwɔ̂omagbê.a`.á,
b. (¯ – ¯– – – –_ ¯ _ _ ¯ _–)
c. mŭ (.ì) nungâ.a .í jí sià pôoma kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we past people these behind look have is emph.
e. If we look behind these people...

32. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́mă`tɔ́
b. (¯ – – –)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ mŭ ((.à)) (.ì) tɔ́
d. what emph. we will it see
e. ...what do we see?

33. a. mă`pɛ́l.ɛ`ye.lálɔ́`l.ɔ́
b. (¯ – – _ – – –)
c. mŭ (.à) pɛ́l.ɛ (yɛ̀) nge.lá tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we will house is one see is emph.
e. see # 34

34. a. nà,njasɛ̌.î`ma
b. (– – –¯ _)
c. ((yɛ̀)) nà njasă .í ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) ma
d. is there palm-fronds the are it on
e. We see one house with palm fronds on it.

35. a. yeépèkɛ.î,pâni.îl.ɔ́`ma
b. (–¯ – –¯ ¯ – – – _)
c. yeé peka .í pâni .í l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) ma
d. : other the pan the emph. is it on
e. There is a corrugated iron roof on another one.

36. a. pɛ́l.ɛ.îyeéhàla-yee.ê-mia
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ _¯ _ _ _ _¯ _ _)
c. pɛ́l.ɛ .í yeé hala yeé .í mia
d. house the : first one the it-is
e. The first house...

37. a. mǎ`tòl.i.ànjasǎ-wɛ.ɛ.ɛ́

b. (¯ - - - - - ¯ - -)

c. mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à njasǎ pɛ́l.ɛ .í

d. we will it name with palm frond house the

e. ...we call a palm frond house.

38. a. yeépèkɛ.î-mia

b. (-¯ - -¯ _-)

c. yeé peka .í mia

d. : other the it-is

e. It is the other one...

39. a. mǎ`tò.i.àpâni-wɛ.ɛ.ɛ́

b. (¯ - - -¯ - - - ¯)

c. mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à pâni pɛ́l.ɛ .í

d. we will it name with pan house the

e. ...we call a 'pan house'.

40. a. mǔ`pɛ́l.ɛ.íjîsiàwôomagbê.a`.á,

b. (¯ - - - - -_ -_ _ - _ /)

c. mǔ (.ì) pɛ́l.ɛ .í jí sià pôoma kpê ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́

d. we past house these behind look have is emph.

e. If we look behind these houses...

41. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́mǎ`tɔ́gbɔ̀ma

b. (¯ - - - _ _)

c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tɔ́ gbɔma

d. what emph. we will it see again

e. ...what else do we see?

42. a. mǎ`ngúlungà.alɔ́`l.ɔ́

b. (¯ - - _ _ ¯ -)

c. mǔ (.à) ngúl.u ngà.a tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́

d. we will tree pl. see is emph.

e. We see trees.

43. a. ye.lá.ánà
b. (- ‾ ‾ _)
c. nge.lá l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) nà
d. one emph. is there
e. There is one...

44. a. ngǐmahúlè.ěngɔ̀`pɛ́l.ɛ.îsiàma
b. (‾ - ‾ _ ‾_ ‾ ‾ ‾ - _ _)
c. ngǐ mahú tew.ě ngɔ̀ (yɛ̀) pɛ́l.ɛ .í sià ma
d. his height pass is is house the pl. on
e. ...which is taller than the houses.

45. a. mútǐlɔ́mà`loǒn.ì`nɛnɛ.ínâhu
b. (‾ - ‾ _ -‾ _ _ - ‾‾_)
c. mǔ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ tɔ́ ma (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í ná hu
d. we are them see at past stand did is picture that in
e. We see them standing in that picture.

46. a. gbɛ̂-bla.al.ɔ́`.ànungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`loǒn.ì
b. (‾ - - ‾ - - ‾- - - -_‾ -‾ _)
c. gbɛ̂ bla.a l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) .à nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. what people emph. are as person these they past stand did
e. What kind of people are these standing here.

47. a. njèngà.a-mia`.àtǐe
b. (- - - - - - - ‾)
c. njè ngà.a mia (yɛ̀) .à tǐ e
d. mother pl. it-is is as they -
e. They are mothers.

48. a. yemîa.á`ngóvangɔ̀`te.ěngɔ̀
b. (- ‾ _ ‾ - - _ _ ‾ _)
c. yemîa l.ɔ́ (.ì) ngóva ngɔ̀ (.ì) tew.ě ngɔ̀
d. who emph. it age is it pass is
e. see # 49

49. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàkpɛ́l.ɛma
b. (- ¯---- _ - - -)
c. nungâ.a .í jí sià kpɛ́l.ɛ ma
d. people these all on
e. Who is the oldest of all these people?

50. a. mamɛ̂.ínâ`loǒn.ì
b. (- ¯ - - _ - _)
c. mamâ .í ná (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. mother that <u>past</u> stand did
e. see # 51

51. a. kulǎ-lɛlɛ.i.ínángǐma
b. (- - ¯---- _ -)
c. kulǎ tɛl.ǐ tɛl.ǐ .í ná ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
d. cloth black black that is her on
e. That mother standing with a black dress on. (the oldest adult)

52. a. kpayɛ̌.íngǐwumbá
b. (- - ¯ ¯ _ -)
c. kpayǎ .í ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ngumbá
d. head-tie the is her on top
e. A head-tie is on her head.

53. a. hiî-lopo.îyeéfèl.e-yee.énâgbla.á
b. (-¯ - - ¯_¯_ - - -¯¯ _ -)
c. hiîndo ndopô .í yeé fel.é yee .í ná kplang.á
d. husband child the : second one that near
e. The youth near that second one...

54. a. mǔyéjamatâ-mia`ngóvangɔ̀
b. (_ - - - ¯ _ _ - - _)
c. mǔ ngéja ma t â mia (.ì) ngóva ngɔ̀
d. our right on he - it-is it age is
e. ...on our right, his age...

55. a. `te.ěngɔ̀nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàkpɛ́l.ɛma
b. (- ‾ _ _ ‾ - - - -_ - - -)
c. (.ì) tew.ě ngɔ̀ nungâ.a .í jí sià kpɛ́l.ɛ ma
d. it pass is people these all on
e. ...is more than all these people. (the children)

56. a. nungâ.a.átǐ`lolɛ́kpàyɛ̌.ítǐwumbá
b. (- ‾ - - - ‾ _ - _ _ - - _ -)
c. nungâ.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́ kpayǎ .í ((yɛ̀)) tǐ ngumbá
d. people the they are how-many head-tie the is them on
e. How many people have head-ties on?

57. a. nungâ.atǐ`fel.é
b. (- ‾ _ - _ -)
c. nungâ.a tǐ (yɛ̀) fel.é
d. people they are two
e. Two.

58. a. nungâ.a.átǐ`lolɛ́kpàyǎgbí.ìtǐwumbá
b. (- ‾ - - - _ - _ _ ‾ -)
c. nungâ.a .í tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́ kpayǎ gbí .ì tǐ ngumbá
d. people the they are how-many head-tie any is-not them on
e. How many people do not have head-ties...

59. a. nyahângɛ̀.ɛ.íjîsiàlía
b. (- ‾ - - ‾ ‾ - _ - -)
c. nyahâ ngà.a .í jí sià ndía
d. wife pl. these among
e. ...among these wives?

60. a. tǐ`fel.é
b. (‾ _ -)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) fel.é
d. they are two
e. Two.

61. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́`ndɔ.ɔ̂mɛ.í
b. (‾ - _ ‾ - -)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ndɔɔ́l.ɔ̂ ma .í
d. what emph. is earth place the
e. What is on the ground?

62. a. ŋanyɛ̌.î-mia`ndɔ.ɔ̂mɛ.í
b. (– –‾ –– – ‾––)
c. ŋanyǎ .í mia (yɛ̀) ndɔɔ́l.ɔ̂ ma
d. sand the it-is is earth on the
e. There is sand on the ground.

63. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`lolɛ́
b. (– ‾––––_‾ _–)
c. nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́
d. people these they are how-many
e. How many people...

64. a. kɔw.ɛ̌.ítǐgɔ́.ɔhu
b. (– –‾ _ –––)
c. kɔw.ɔ̌ .í ((yɛ̀)) tǐ kɔ́w.ɔ hu
d. show the is their feet in
e. ...have shoes on their feet?

65. a. tǐ`fel.ékɔ̀w.ɛ̌.ítǐgɔ́.ɔhu
b. (‾ – ‾––‾ _–––)
c. tǐ (yɛ̀) fel.é kɔw.ɔ̌ .í ((yɛ̀)) tǐ kɔ́w.ɔ hu
d. they are two shoe the is their food on
e. Two have shoes on their feet.

Slide Fourteen: The Miners

1. a. kánibɔ́blà.a.â`.á
b. (‾–‾ _–‾ –)
c. káni mbɔ́ blà.a .í (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. metal dig people the is emph.
e. 'Miners'

2. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́nùngɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`pé.emà
b. (‾‾_ ‾–––_‾ ––_)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pé.e ma
d. what emph. people these they are it do at
e. What are these people doing?

3. a. tǐ`yengěma`l.ɔ́
   b. (¯ -- ¯ -)
   c. tǐ (yɛ̀) ngengě ma (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
   d. they are work at is emph.
   e. They are working.

4. a. gbɛ̂-yenge-mia.átǐ`pé.emà
   b. (¯ - - --¯¯ --_)
   c. gbɛ̂ ngengě mia l.ɔ́ tǐ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pé.e ma
   d. what work it-is emph. they are it do at
   e. What kind of work are they doing?

5. a. kánibɔ́yènge.î-miatǐ`pé.emà
   b. (¯¯¯ - - ¯ --¯ --_)
   c. káni mbɔ́ ngengě .í mia tǐ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pé.e ma
   d. metal dig work the it-is they are it do at
   e. They are mining.

6. a. kánibɔ́lɛ̀.îyeéjîtáyèégbɛl.ɔ́
   b. (¯¯¯ _¯_¯¯-_¯¯ _)
   c. káni mbɔ́ là .í yeé jí tá yeé gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́
   d. metal dig-ing the : this very : what emph.
   e. What particular kind of mining is this?

7. a. dá.âmɔbɔ́lɛ̀.îl.ɔ́`.àjí
   b. (¯¯ -¯_¯ - _¯)
   c. dá.âmɔ mbɔ́ là .í l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) .à jí
   d. diamond dig-ing the emph. is as this
   e. This is diamond mining.

8. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`kánigɔ́kɔ̂.ing.a`.á
   b. (- ¯--- -_¯_ ---_ _ -)
   c. nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ (.ì) káni kɔ́kɔ̂l.i ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
   d. people these they past metal find have is emph.
   e. If these people find something of value...

9. a. tǎ`wòte.àkpatɛ̂-bla.al.ɔ́

b. (¯ -- -- ¯ __ ¯)

c. tǐ (.à) potê .à kpatɛ̂ bla.a l.ɔ́

d. they will become as rich people <u>emph.</u>

e. ...they will become rich.

10. a. gbɛvadá.âmɔ.íngǐ-ba.âwɔ.ɔ̌ngɔ̀

b. (-- ¯¯-- _ ¯ - _ - _)

c. gbɛva dá.âmɔ .í ngǐ bâ .í ngɔl.ɔ̌ ngɔ̀

d. because diamond the its value the big is

e. Because the diamond is valuable.

11. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́tǎ`pé.e,pɛ́in

b. (¯ -- -- --)

c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) pé.e pɛ́in

d. what <u>emph.</u> they will it do before

e. What will they do...

12. a. tǐyà`fôo`káni.îma

b. (¯ - ¯ - ¯¯¯ _)

c. tǐ yà (.ì) fôo (yɛ̀) káni .í ma

d. they before it reach is metal the on

e. ...before they reach the thing of value?

13. a. hala-hindatǎ`pé.e,pɛ́intâ-mia`.àjí

b. (-- - - ¯ -- --- -- _-)

c. hala hindâ tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) pé.e pɛ́in t â mia (yɛ̀) .à jí

d. first business they will it do before it - it-is is as this

e. The first thing they will do...

14. a. tǐ`lǐma`.átǐ`dá.âmɔ-lɔɔl.ɛ.îgɔ́kɔ̂.i

b. (¯ _- _- -- ____-- -_)

c. tǐ (yɛ̀) ndǐ ma (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ tǐ (?) dá.âmɔ ndɔɔ́l.ɔ̂ .í kɔ́kɔ̂l.i

d. they are go at is <u>emph.</u>that-they diamond ground the seek

e. ...is to go find a diamond mine.

15. a. ínánà.ágbìtǐngɔ̀,
    b. (¯¯_ - _¯ _)
    c. íná ((yɛ̀)) nà l.ɔ́ kpitǐ ngɔ̀
    d. if is there emph. grass is
    e. If it is grassy there...

16. a. tánàhága`l.ɔ́
    b. (¯ _-̣¯ -)
    c. tǐ ((.à)) nà hága (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
    d. they will there mow is emph.
    e. ...they will mow there...

17. a. kɛ̀tí tâtoô. ànàbɔ́là
    b. (_ ¯ ¯ _¯ _ _ -_)
    c. kɛ̀ tǐ tâtoô .à nà mbɔ́ là
    d. then that-they begin by there dig-ing
    e. ...so that they can begin digging.

18. a. tǎ`ndɔ.ə̂mɛ.îbɔ̀.àgbə̂.ɔ́
    b. (¯ _ ¯- - _ - ¯ -)
    c. tǐ (.à) ndɔɔ́l.ə̂ ma .í mbɔ́ .à gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́
    d. they will earth place the dig with what emph.
    e. What will they dig the earth with?

19. a. tâ`ndɔ.ə̂mɛ.îbɔ̀.àsə̂bu.îl.ɔ́
    b. (¯ _ ¯- - _ _¯ - - _)
    c. tǐ (.à) ndɔɔ́l.ə̂ ma .í mbɔ́ .à sə̂bu .í l.ɔ́
    d. they will earth place the dig with shovel the emph.
    e. They will dig the earth with a shovel.

20. a. mǔâ.á`sə̂bu`saw.á.ɔ̀ná.ânilɔ́màlɛ̀pɛ́in
    b. (_¯- - _ _ ¯ _- - _¯ _ _- -)
    c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) sə̂bu (yɛ̀) saw.á .ɔ̀ ná.âni tɔ́ ma lɛ̀pɛ́in
    d. we - emph. are shovel is three or four see at in fact
    e. We see three or four shovels in fact.

21. a. tǐ`ndɔ.ɔ̂mɛ.íjîbɔ́ng.a`.á,
b. (¯ _ ¯---_ - _)
c. tǐ (.ì) ndɔɔ́l.ɔ̂ ma .í jí mbɔ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. they past earth place this dig have is emph.
e. When they have dug out the earth...

22. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́gbɔ̀untǎ `pé.e
b. (¯ - __ ¯ - -)
c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ gbɔun tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) pé.e
d. what emph. more they will it do
e. ...what else will they do?

23. a. tǎ`ndɔ.ɔ̂mɛ.îbɔ́`l.ɔ́,há.âni
b. (¯ _ ¯---_ _ - - _)
c. tǐ (.à) ndɔɔ́l.ɔ̂ ma .í mbɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ há.âni
d. they will earth place the dig is emph. until
e. They will dig out the earth until...

24. a. tí fòo`njɛɛ̌.îma
b. (¯ -- --¯_)
c. tǐ fôo (yɛ̀) njaǎ .í ma
d. that-they reach is water the on
e. ...they reach water.

25. a. yeénjɛ̀ɛ̌.íjî-mia
b. (-¯ --¯¯ --)
c. yeé njaǎ .í jí mia
d. : water this it-is
e. see # 26

26. a. tǎ`mbuvɛ́sɛkáni.îva
b. (¯ _------_)
c. tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) mbu fɛ́sɛ káni .í fa
d. they will it under scratch-out riches the for
e. They will scratch around under this water for riches.

27. a. tǎ`yeénjɛ̀ɛ̌.íjîbuvɛ́sɛ
    b. (‾ -‾ --‾‾_ --)
    c. tǐ (.à) yeé njaǎ .í jí mbu fɛ́sɛ
    d. they will how water this under scratch-out
    e. How do they scratch under the water?

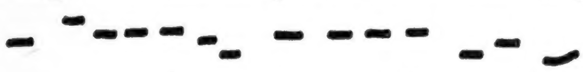
28. a. pɔ̂l.ɛ.ínâ`njɛɛ̌.îbu,
    b. (‾ --- --- ‿)
    c. pɔ̂l.ɔ .í ná (yɛ̀) njaǎ .í mbu
    d. mud that is water the under
    e. The mud which is under the water...

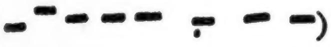
29. a. tâ-miatǎ`kpuǎ
    b. (‾ --‾ _-)
    c. t â mia tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) kpuǎ
    d. it - it-is they will it pull-out
    e. ...they will pull it out...

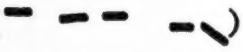
30. a. kɛ̀tǐ`ngúa.akáni.îva
    b. (_‾ -------_)
    c. kɛ̀ tǐ ((.ì)) (.ì) ngúa ng.a káni .í va
    d. then they past it wash have riches the for
    e. ...and then wash it for riches.

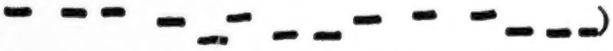
31. a. nɛ́malɛ̀ng.a`.átǐma,
    b. (‾‾_ _ -_‿)
    c. nɛ́ma tɛ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ ma
    d. luck raise has is emph. is them on
    e. If they are lucky...

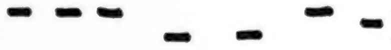
32. a. tǎ`káni.îlɔ́`l.ɔ́
    b. (‾ ---_ _)
    c. tǐ (.à) káni .í tɔ́ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
    d. they will riches the see is emph.
    e. ...they will see riches.

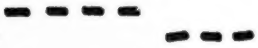
33. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.ínâsiàkpɛ́l.ɛ.ɛ́tǐ`loǒn.ì,
    b. ()
    c. nungâ.a .í ná sià kpɛ́l.ɛ .í tǐ (.ì) toǒ n.ì
    d. people those all the they <u>past</u> stand did
    e. All those people standing...

34. a. tǐâ.ávúli`vɔ́ndɔma
    b. ()
    c. tǐ â l.ɔ́ vúli (yɛ̀) fɔ́ndɔ ma
    d. they - <u>emph.</u> indeed are sweat at
    e. ...are sweating very much.

35. a. bí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂
    b. ()
    c. bí ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ bɛ̂
    d. you <u>past</u> it see have is <u>emph.</u> you-saying
    e. You might say...

36. a. fól.e.îl.ɔ́tǐbémà.ànyɔ́nyɔ-gee-waa
    b. ()
    c. fól.o .í l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ mbé ma .à nyúma nyúma yeé ngɔl.ɔ̌
    d. sun the <u>emph.</u> is them dry at with bad bad one big
    e. ...the sun is drying them out badly.

37. a. fól.e.î`gbandǐng.a`.á
    b. ()
    c. fól.o .í (.ì) kpandǐ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
    d. sun the <u>past</u> warm-up has is <u>emph.</u>
    e. When the sun has warmed up...

38. a. bílú.u.î.àyɛ̀nà
    b. ()
    c. bí ndúw.u .í .à yɛ̀ nà
    d. your skin the will become thus
    e. ... your skin will get this way.

39. a. bílú.u.î.àlɛl.ǐ`l.ɔ́,kpí
b. (‾‾‾‾ __ ‾ – –)
c. bí nd́uw.u .í .à tɛl.ǐ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ kpí
d. your skin the will black is emph. very-black
e. Your skin will become very black.

40. a. pu-mɔbɛ́bílú.u.í
b. (_ _ ‾‾‾‾‾)
c. pu mɔ̀ bɛ́ bí nd́uw.u .í
d. white person even your skin the
e. see # 41

41. a. .ígòl.ĕkéâfɛ́ngbɛnà
b. (‾_ ‾‾‾_ – _)
c. .í kol.ĕ kíâ fɛ́ngbɛ nà
d. be-it white as white satin thus
e. White man too, even though your skin is white as satin.

42. a. bí`lòong.a`.á`fól.e.íjîya,
b. (‾ __ _ ‾ ‾‾‾‾ _)
c. bí (.i) toŏ ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) fól.o .í jí nga
d. you past stand have is emph. is sun this in
e. If you stand in this sun...

43. a. bílú.u.î.àlɛl.ǐ`l.ɔ́,kpí
b. (‾‾‾‾ __‾ – –)
c. bí nd́uw.u .í .à tɛl.ǐ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ kpí
d. your skin the will blacken is emph. very-black
e. ...your skin will become very black.

Slide Fifteen: In The Compound

1. a. kátɛ.îhu
b. (‾‾‾ _)
c. káta .í hu
d. compound the in
e. 'In the Compound'

2. a. mîl.ɔ́múnàlɔ́mà
b. (‾ – – _ – _)
c. mî l.ɔ́ mŭ ((yɛ̀)) nà tɔ́ ma
d. where emph. we are there see at
e. Where are we looking?

3. a. mŭ`kátɛ.îhul.ɔ́lɔ́mà
b. (‾ – – – _ – – _)
c. mŭ (yɛ̀) káta .í hu l.ɔ́ tɔ́ ma
d. we are compound the in emph. see at
e. We are looking at the compound.

4. a. gbɛ̂-miakol.ĕngɔ̀mŭ`tɔ́mà
b. (‾ – – – ‾ – ‾ – _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia kol.ĕ ngɔ̀ mŭ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma
d. what it-is white is we are it see at
e. What do we see that is white?

5. a. jagbɛ.î-miakol.ĕngɔ̀
b. (– – ‾ – – – ‾ _)
c. jagba .í mia (.ì) kol.ĕ ngɔ̀
d. basin the it-is it white is
e. The basin is white.

6. a. gbɛ̂-mia`loŏn.ì`jagbɛ.îgu.lɔ́
b. (‾ – – – ‾ _ – – ‾ _ –)
c. gbɛ̂ mia (.ì) toŏ n.ì (yɛ̀) jagba .í ku.lɔ́
d. what it-is past stand did is basin the in-front
e. What is standing in front of the basin?

7. a. tɛ́.î-mia`loŏn.ì`jagbɛ.îgu.lɔ́
b. (‾ ‾ – – – ‾ – – – ‾ _ –)
c. tɛ́ .í mia (.ì) toŏ n.ì (yɛ̀) jagba .í ku.lɔ́
d. chicken the it-is past stand did is basin the in-front
e. A chicken is standing in front of the basin.

8. a. gbɛ̂-mia.á̀ jagbɛ.îwôoma
b. (‾ - - ‾ _ _ ‾ - _ _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) jagba .í pôoma
d. what it-is emph. is basin the behind
e. What is behind the basin?

9. a. njaǎ-vɛɛ.î-mia
b. (_ _ ‾ - - _ _)
c. njaǎ fɛɛ̌ .í mia
d. water pot the it-is
e. It is a water pot.

10. a. pɛ́l.ɛ.îyeégbɛ̂l.ɔ́
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ _ - - -)
c. pɛ́l.ɛ .í yeé gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́
d. house the : what emph.
e. What kind of house is this?

11. a. káta-wɛ.ɛ.ɛ̂l.ɔ́
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ - - -)
c. káta pɛ́l.ɛ .í l.ɔ́
d. compound house the emph.
e. It is a compound house.

12. a. gbɛ̂-mia.á̀ tɛ̀ngɔ̀ mahú
b. (‾ - - ‾ _ _ _ -)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) tɛ́ ngɔ̀ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) mahú
d. what it-is emph. is lift is is it on-top
e. What is it thatched with?

13. a. njasɛ̌.î-mia
b. (_ _ ‾ _ _)
c. njasǎ .í mia
d. palm frond the it-is
e. With palm fronds.

14. a. gbɛ̂-mia.átǎ`pé.e.àngúl.i.íjîsià
b. (‾ --‾‾ --_- - ‾‾-_)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) pé.e .à ngúl.u .í jí sià
d. what it-is emph. they will it do with wood these
e. see # 15

15. a. tǐ`loǒn.ì`pɛ́l.ɛ.îgu.lɔ́
b. (‾ -‾_ - ‾‾_ -)
c. tǐ (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) pɛ́l.ɛ .í ku.lɔ́
d. they past stand did is house the in-front
e. What do they do with the pieces of wood standing in front of the house?

16. a. kulɛ̌.î-miatǎ`hɛ́l.ɛ`ma
b. (- -‾ --‾ - ‾ _)
c. kulǎ .í mia tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) hɛ́l.ɛ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) ma
d. cloth the it-is they will it hang is it on
e. They hang cloth on it.

17. a. mɔlîl.ɔ́wǔlá?
b. (-‾ - _ -)
c. mɔlî l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) wǔ ndá
d. question emph. is your mouth
e. Do you have any questions?

Slide Sixteen: On The Old Farm

1. a. kpa.ǎ-wovɛ.îhu
b. (- - ‾--_)
c. kpal.ǎ ngóva .í hu
d. farm old the in
e. 'On The Old Farm'

2. a. mîl.ɔ́`.àhindɛ̂.íjímúnàgbêmà
b. (‾ ‾ _- ‾--- -‾_)
c. mî l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) .à hindâ .í jí mǔ ((yɛ̀)) nà kpê ma
d. where emph. is as place this we are there look-at at
e. What is this place we are looking at?

3. a. kpa.ǎ-wovɛ.îhu-mia
b. (- - ‾ ‾ ‾ - - -)
c. kpal.ǎ ngóva .í hu mia
d. farm old the in it-is
e. see # 4

4. a. múnàgbêma
b. (‾ - ‾ _)
c. mǔ ((yɛ̀)) nà kpê ma
d. we are there look-at at
e. We are looking at the old farm.

5. a. mîl.ɔ́`.àhindɛ̂.íjímúnàlɔ́mà
b. (‾ - _ _ ‾ - - - _ - _)
c. mî l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) .à hindâ .í jí mǔ ((yɛ̀)) nà tɔ́ ma
d. where <u>emph.</u> is as place this we are there look at
e. Where is this place we are seeing?

6. a. kpa.ǎ-wovɛ.îhul.ɔ́múnàlɔ́mà
b. (- - ‾ - - _ - - _ - _)
c. kpal.ǎ ngóva .í hu l.ɔ́ mǔ ((yɛ̀)) nà tɔ́ ma
d. farm old the in <u>emph.</u> we are there see at
e. We see in the old farm.

7. a. gbɛ̂va.ámǔ`ndě.ì
b. (‾ _ - - - _)
c. gbɛ̂va l.ɔ́ mǔ ((.ì)) (.ì) ndě n.ì
d. why <u>emph.</u> we <u>past</u> it say did
e. Why did we say...

8. a. mɛ̂,kpa.ǎ-wovɛ.îhul.ɔ́
b. (\ - - ‾ - - _ -)
c. mɛ̂ kpal.ǎ ngóva .í hu l.ɔ́
d. we-saying farm old the in <u>emph.</u>
e. ...in the <u>old</u> farm?

9. a. gbɛvangúl.i.ínâsiàtǐ`loǒn.ì
b. (- - ‾ - - - - _ ‾ _ - _)
c. gbɛva ngúl.u .í ná sià tǐ (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. because tree those they <u>past</u> stand did
e. see # 12

10. a. tǐmahúlè.ěngɔ̀
b. (¯ - ¯ - ¯ _)
c. tǐ mahú tew.ě ngɔ̀
d. their height surpass is
e. see # 12

11. a. tǔ-han.i.ínâsiàma
b. (¯ ¯ - - - - _ _)
c. tú-han.i .í ná sià ma
d. flora those on
e. see # 12

12. a. mútǐlɔ́mà
b. (¯ - ¯ _)
c. mǔ ((yὲ)) tǐ tɔ́ ma
d. we are them see at
e. Because those trees standing there are taller than the other vegetation we see.

13. a. bí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ - ↘)
c. bí (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yὲ) l.ɔ́ bɛ̂
d. you past see have is emph. you-saying
e. (If you saw it you would say...) One might say...

14. a. ngúl.u-wovangà.al.ɔ́
b. (¯ ¯ ¯ _ _ _ -)
c. ngúl.u ngóva ngà.a l.ɔ́
d. tree old pl. emph.
e. ...old trees.

15. a. tâógbɔ̀mabí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂
b. (¯ - _ _ ¯ - - - ↘)
c. tâó gbɔ̀ma bí (.ì) tɔ́ ng.a (yὲ) l.ɔ́ bɛ̂
d. and again you past see have is emph. you-saying
e. And further, it seems...

16. a. tǐ`lέmbing.a`loǒn.ì
b. (¯ - - - _ - _)
c. tǐ (.ì) ndέmbi ng.a (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. they past last-long have past stand did
e. ...they have stood for a long time.

17. a. gbϵvahalϵ.îtǐ`kpa.ǎ.âlá.a`.á
    b. (- - - - ‾ ‾ - - ‾ - - -)
    c. gbϵva hala .í tǐ (.ì) kpal.ǎ .í ndá ng.a (yὲ) l.ɔ́
    d. because first the they <u>past</u> farm the lay have is <u>emph.</u>
    e. Because when they first lay the farm...

18. a. ngúl.ugbí.ìnànáhî.àló
    b. (‾ ‾ ‾ _ _ ‾ ‾ - ‾)
    c. ngúl.u gbí .ì nà náhî .à ndó
    d. tree any not there which will remain
    e. ...there is no tree which will remain...

19. a. `loǒn.ì`ndá.a.âma
    b. (- ‾ _ - - - _)
    c. (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yὲ) ndáw.a .í ma
    d. <u>past</u> stand did is leaf the on
    e. ...standing with leaves on.

20. a. gbϵvatǎ`kpa.ǎ.âmɔ́,pϵ́in
    b. (- - ‾ _ _ ‾ ‾ - -)
    c. gbϵva tǐ (.à) kpal.ǎ .í mɔ́ pϵ́in
    d. because they will farm the burn before
    e. Because they burn the farm before...

21. a. tǐyà`ndá
    b. (‾ _ -)
    c. tǐ yà (.ì) ndá
    d. that-they yet it lay
    e. ...they lay it.

22. a. tâóhú.àgûha,pϵ́in
    b. (‾- - _ - _ - -)
    c. tâó hú .à kûha pϵ́in
    d. and inside (time) will grow long before
    e. And it will be a long time before...

23. a. ngúl.u.íyàndá.a.âmaǎjɔɔ̌`.ɔ́
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ _ – – – _ ‾ _ ‾ –)
c. ngúl.u .í yà ndáw.a .í maǎ sɔɔ̌ (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. tree it-be yet leaf the on get is emph.
e. ...the tree gets leaves.

24. a. ngúl.i.ínâle.ě.àló`loǒn.ì
b. (‾ ‾ ‾ ‾ – ‾ _ ‾ – ‾ _)
c. ngúl.u .í ná lek.ě .à ndó (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. tree that only will remain past stand did
e. Only that tree will remain standing...

25. a. `kpa.ǎ.âhu`ndá.a.âma
b. (– – ‾ – ‾ ‾ ‾ _)
c. (yɛ̀) kpal.ǎ .í hu (yɛ̀) ndáw.a .í ma
d. is farm the in is leaf the on
e. ...on the farm with leaves.

26. a. tâ-mia`.àtɔ́kpɔ.í
b. (‾ – – – ‾ ‾ –)
c. t â mia (yɛ̀) .à tɔ́kpɔ .í
d. it - it-is is as palm tree the
e. It is the palm tree.

27. a. gbɛ̂-mia.á`loǒn.ì
b. (‾ – – ‾ – ‾ _)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ (.ì) toǒ n.ì
d. what it-is emph. past stand did
e. What is standing...

28. a. mǔgɔwɔ̌makéâpɛ́l.ɛ
b. (‾ – – ‾ ‾ ‾ – –)
c. ((yɛ̀)) mǔ kɔwɔ̌ ma kíâ pɛ́l.ɛ
d. is our left on like house
e. ...on our left like a house.

29. a. mbɛtɛ̌.î-mia`loǒn.ìmǔgɔwɔ̌ma
b. (- - ‾ _ _ _ ‾ _ ‾ _ _ ‾)
c. mbɛtɛ̌ .í mia (.ì) toǒ n.ì ((yɛ̀)) mǔ kɔwɔ̌ ma
d. platform the it-is <u>past</u> stand did is our left on
e. The platform is standing on our left.

30. a. mbɛtɛ̌.îyeéjîtá.ìgba
b. (- - ‾ - ‾ ‾ ‾ _ _)
c. mbɛtɛ̌ .í yeé jí tá .ì gba
d. platform the : this one it-is different
e. This platform is different...

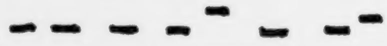
31. a. mbɛtɛ̌.îyeépèkɛ.ínâmagɛ̀
b. (- - ‾ _ ‾ _ _ ‾ ‾ _ _)
c. mbɛtɛ̌ .í yeé peka .í ná ma gɛ̀
d. platform the : other that from in-the-past
e. ...from the other platform...

32. a. mǔ`tɔ́n.ì
b. (‾ - _)
c. mǔ ((.ì)) (.ì) tɔ́ n.ì
d. we <u>past</u> it see did
e. ...we saw.

33. a. mbɛtɛ̌.íjîtá`toǒngɔ̀.îkéâkpuânà
b. (- - ‾ ‾ - _ ‾ _ ‾ - - _ ‾ _)
c. mbɛtɛ̌ .í jí tá (.ì) toǒ ngɔ̀ .í kíâ kpuâ nà
d. platform this one it stand is the like farm house thus
e. This platform is built like a farm house.

34. a. gbɛ̂va.ámǎ`tò.i.àmbɛtɛ̌.í
b. (‾ _ ‾ ‾ _ _ _ _ _ ‾)
c. gbɛ̂ va l.ɔ́ mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à mbɛtɛ̌ .í
d. what for <u>emph.</u> we will it name with platform the
e. Why do we call it a platform?

35. a. gbɛva`tɛ̀ngɔ̀.î`ngel.ěya

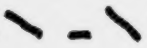
b. ()

c. gbɛva (.ì) tɛ́ ngɔ̀ .í (yɛ̀) ngel.ě nga

d. because it lift is the is sky on

e. Because it is raised into the sky.

36. a. mɛ̂,gɛgbɛ̂

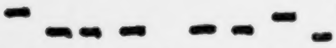
b. ()

c. mɛ̂ gɛ gbɛ̂

d. we-saying in-the-past what

e. What did we say...

37. a. ndálòongɔ̀`mbɛtɛ̌.îma

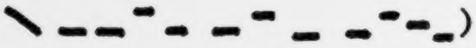
b. ()

c. ndá toǒ ngɔ̀ (yɛ̀) mbɛtɛ̌ .í ma

d. mouth stand is is platform the on

e. ...on the subject of platforms?

38. a. mɛ̂,gɛ̀nàmîandopô-mumu.îsià

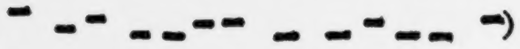
b. ()

c. mɛ̂ gɛ̀ nà mia ndopô mumu .í sià

d. we-saying in-the-past there it-is child small the <u>pl.</u>

e. We said that it is the place where small children...

39. a. tǎ`heǐnàkɔɔ́tǐ`kpa.ǎ.âmaǎgbɛ́

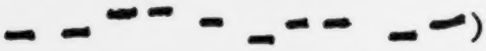
b. ()

c. tǐ (.à) heǐ ((yɛ̀)) nà kɔɔ́ tǐ (?̀) kpal.ǎ .í maǎ kpɛ́

d. they will sit is there so that-they farm the on chase

e. ...sit to guard the farm.

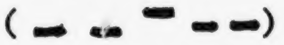
40. a. ngel.ě.ímǔ`tɔ́mànyámungɔ̀.í?

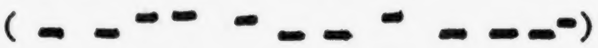
b. ()

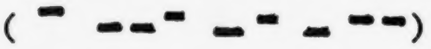
c. ngel.ě .í mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma nyámu ngɔ̀ lé

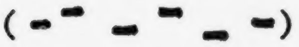
d. sky the we are it see at bad is <u>id.</u>

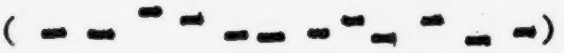
e. Is this sky we are seeing bad...

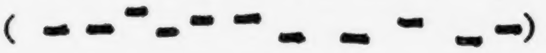
41. a. .ɔ̀nyanděngɔ̀.í
b. 
c. .ɔ̀ nyandě ngɔ̀ lé
d. or good is id.
e. ...or good?

42. a. ngel.ě.ímǔ`tɔ́mànyanděngɔ̀-waalé
b. 
c. ngel.ě .í mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma nyandě ngɔ̀ ngɔl.ɔ̌ lé
d. sky the we are it see at good is very id.
e. The sky we see is very good.

43. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ágbɔ̀.ǔngɔ̀.íjî (no fall)
b. 
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ kpɔl.ǔ ngɔ̀ .í jí
d. what it-is emph. red is this
e. What is this that is red...

44. a. `laǎn.ìmǔgu.lɔ́
b. 
c. (.ì) ndá n.ì ((yɛ̀)) mǔ ku.lɔ́
d. past lay did is our in-front
e. ...laying in front of us?

45. a. kpitǐ-be.î-mia`laǎn.ìmǔgu.lɔ́
b. 
c. kpitǐ mbé .í mia (.ì) ndá n.ì ((yɛ̀)) mǔ ku.lɔ́
d. grass dry the it-is past lay did is our in-front
e. Dry grass is laying in front of us.

46. a. kpitǐ.îyeégbɛ̂-nyikɔl.ɔ́`.àjí
b. 
c. kpitǐ .í yeé gbɛ̂ nyikɔ l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) .à jí
d. grass the : what kind emph. is as this
e. What kind of grass is this?

47. bí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂
see # 13 and # 48

48. a. mbaǎ-gbiti.î-mia
    b. (-- ‾--__)
    c. mbaǎ kpitǐ .í mia
    d. rice grass the it-is
    e. It looks like rice grass.

49. a. kpa.ǎ.ájí.ìgbapu-gba.ǎ.âsiàma,hîye
    b. (- -‾‾ --- --‾--- ‾_)
    c. kpal.ǎ .í jí .ì gba pu kpal.ǎ .í sià ma hîye
    d. farm this it different white man farm the pl. from isn't-it
    e. This farm is different from the white-man's farms isn't it?

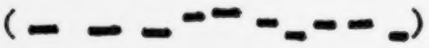
Slide Seventeen: The Cooks

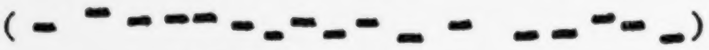
1. a. mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.iblà.a.â.á
    b. (_‾- - __‾-)
    c. mɛ̌hɛ̂ ngíl.i bla.a .í l.ɔ́
    d. food cook people the emph.
    e. 'The Cooks'

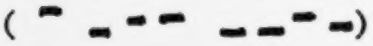
2. a. gbɔ̂.ɔ́nùngɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`pé.emà
    b. (‾ - _ ‾----_‾ - -_)
    c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pé.e ma
    d. what emph. people these they are it do at
    e. What are these people doing?

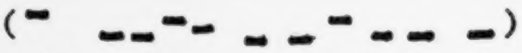
3. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐâ.á`ngengě-gbotowé.emà
    b. (- ‾----__‾- _ _ ‾---_)
    c. nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ngengě kpotǒ pé.e ma
    d. people these they - emph. are job many do at
    e. These people are doing many jobs.

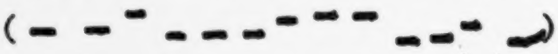
4. a. àmú tâtoôlɛ̀
    b. (_‾ ‾ -‾_)
    c. à mǔ tâtoô lɛ̀
    d. let us begin now
    e. Let us begin now...

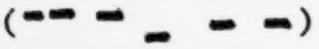
5. a. .àngengě.íjîsiàlágɛ́là
b. 
c. .à ngengě .í jí sià ndá kɛ́ là
d. by job these name show-ing
e. ...by showing the names of these jobs.

6. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐtɛɛ̂ngal.ɔ́`mbɛɛ̌.îwámà
b. 
c. nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ tɛɛ̂nga l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) mbaǎ .í ngúa ma
d. people these they some emph. are rice the wash at
e. Some of these people are washing rice.

7. a. gbɛ̂va.átǎ`mbɛɛ̌.îwá
b. 
c. gbɛ̂ va l.ɔ́ tǐ (.à) mbaǎ .í ngúa
d. what for emph. they will rice the wash
e. Why do they wash the rice?

8. a. tǎ`mbɛɛ̌.îwágbɛ̀vatǐ.ìlòn.ì,
b. 
c. tǐ (.à) mbaǎ .í ngúa gbɛva tǐ .ì ndó n.ì
d. they will rice the wash because they not want neg.
e. They wash rice because they do not want...

9. a. ŋanyɛ̌.î.ɔ̀kɔtǐ.í.ílómbɛ̀ɛ̌.îhu,
b. 
c. ŋanyǎ .í .ɔ̀ kɔtǔ .í .í ndó mbaǎ .í hu
d. sand the or stone the that-it remain rice the in
e. ...sand or stones to remain in the rice...

10. a. pɛ́intǐyà`ngíl.i
b. 
c. pɛ́in tǐ yà (.ì) ngíl.i
d. before that-they yet it cook
e. ...before they cook it.

11. a. gbɛvaŋanyɛ̌.î`lóng.a`.á
    b. (- - - - ¯ - - _)
    c. gbɛva ŋanyǎ .í (.ì) ndó ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
    d. because sand the past remain has is emph.
    e. Because, if sand remains...

12. a. `mbɛɛ̌.îhu
    b. (- - ¯ _)
    c. (yɛ̀) mbaǎ .í hu
    d. is rice the in
    e. ...in the rice...

13. a. tǐ`ngíl.ing.a`.á.àwòte.àhindâ-nyamul.ɔ́
    b. (¯ - - - - _ _ _ _ _ ¯ - - -)
    c. tǐ (.ì) ngíl.i ng.a (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ .à potê .à hindâ nyámu l.ɔ́
    d. they past cook have is emph. it-will turn into thing bad emph.
    e. ...when they cook it, it will become something bad...

14. a. nâsiàvatǎ`mɛ̌
    b. (¯ - _ _ ¯ -)
    c. ná sià fa tǐ ((.à)) (.ì) mɛ̌
    d. those for they will it eat
    e. ...for those who eat it.

15. a. nungâ.atɛɛ̂nga
    b. (- ¯ - - ¯ _)
    c. nungâ.a tɛɛ̂nga
    d. people some
    e. Some people...

16. a. tǐâ.á`fɛɛ̌.îhugbêmà
    b. (_ ¯ - - - ¯ _ ¯ _)
    c. tǐ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) fɛɛ̌ .í hu kpê ma
    d. they - emph. are pot the in look-at at
    e. ...are looking in the pot.

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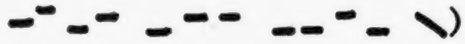
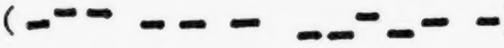
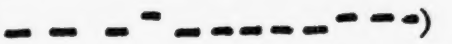
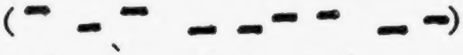
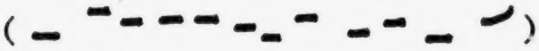
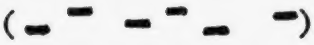
17. a. \`maǎhoǐngɔ̀.ítǐ\`fɛɛ̌.îhugbê
b. ()
c. (.ì) maǎ hoǐ ngɔ̀ .í tǐ (yɛ̀) fɛɛ̌ .í hu kpê
d. it on hold is the they are pot it in look
e. It is necessary to look into the pot...

18. a. kɔɔ́tǐ\`kɔ́.ɔ,jîmbɛɛ̌.î.àyíl.i
b. ()
c. kɔɔ́ tǐ (.ì) kɔ́l.ɔ jí mbaǎ .í .à ngíl.i
d. so that-they it know when rice the will cook
e. ...so they will know when the rice is cooked.

19. a. gbɛva\`maǎ.ìhòi.ìkɔɔ́nú.u
b. ()
c. gbɛva (.ì) maǎ .ì hoǐ n.ì kɔɔ́ núm.u
d. because it on not fit <u>neg.</u> that person
e. Because it is not fitting that a person...

20. a. .í\`mɛ̌hɛ̂-nyamuyíl.ingɔ̀mɛ̌
b. ()
c. .í (?) mɛ̌hɛ̂ nyámu ngíl.i ngɔ̀ mɛ̌
d. that-he food bad cook is eat
e. ...eat badly cooked food.

21. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ\`loǒ.ì\`l.ɔ́?
b. ()
c. nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ (.ì) toǒ n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. people these they <u>past</u> stand did is <u>emph.</u>
e. Are these people standing...

22. a. .ɔ̀tǐ\`wɛ.ɛ̌.ɛ̀\`l.ɔ́
b. ()
c. .ɔ̀ tǐ (.ì) pɛl.ɛ̌ n.ì (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. or they <u>past</u> stoop did is <u>emph.</u>
e. ... or stooping?

23. a. nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`wɛ.ɛ̌.ɛ̀`1.ɔ́
b. (- ‾ - - - - _‾ - ‾ _ -)
c. nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ (.ì) pɛ1.ɛ̌ n.ì (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́
d. people these they past stoop did is emph.
e. These people are stooping.

24. a. wǎ`gú`1.ɔ́wǔwɛ.ɛ̧̌kéânungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsià
b. (‾ ‾ - - _ - - - _ ‾ - - - - _)
c. wǔ (.à) kú (yɛ̀) 1.ɔ́ wǔ pɛ1.ɛ̌ kíâ nungâ.a .í jí sià
d. you will be-able is emph. that-you stoop like people these
e. Are you able to stoop as these people...

25. a. tǐ`wɛ.ɛ̌.ɛ̀là
b. (‾ - ‾ - -)
c. tǐ (.ì) pɛ1.ɛ̌ n.ì là
d. they past stoop did as
e. ...are stooping?

26. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ágbɔ̀un,kíni
b. (‾ - - ‾ - - ‾ ‾)
c. gbɛ̂ mia 1.ɔ́ gbɔun kíni
d. what it-is emph. again all
e. Again, what all...

27. a. mǔ`tɔ́mà`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
b. (‾ ‾ - - - ‾ ‾ _)
c. mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ı) tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
d. we are it see at is picture this in
e. ...do we see in this picture?

28. a. mǔâ.á`kɜ̂w.ulɔ́mà
b. (_ ‾ ‾ - _ ‾ _)
c. mǔ â 1.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) kɜ̂w.u tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are box see at
e. We see a box.

29. a. mǔâ.á`mɛ̌hɛ̂mɛ̌gàlo`fel.élɔ́mà
b. (-‾- _‾-__- --_)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) mɛhɛ̂ mɛ̌ kalǒ (yɛ̀) fel.é tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are food eat dish is two see at
e. We see two food dishes.

30. a. mǔâ.á`mɛ̌hɛ̂mɛ̌gàlolágbɔ̀w.ǔhàn.ilɔ́mà
b. (-‾- _‾-__‾_ ‾_ -‾_)
c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) mɛ̌hɛ̂ mɛ̌ kalǒ ndá kpɔw.ǔ han.ǐ tɔ́ ma
d. we - emph. are food eat dish mouth cover thing see at
e. We see a dish lid.

31. a. han.ǐ.ínámǎ`han.ǐ.îlágbɔ̀w.ǔl
b. (- -‾‾‾ - -‾- - -‾)
c. han.ǐ .í ná mǔ (.à) han.ǐ .í ndá kpɔw.ǔ la
d. thing the which we will thing the mouth close with
e. The thing we close the mouths of things with...

32. a. tâ-miamǎ`tò.i.àhan.ǐlágbɔ̀w.ǔhàn.i.í
b. (‾ --‾ ---- -‾ - ‾- --)
c. t â mia mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à han.ǐ ndá kpɔw.ǔ han.ǐ .í
d. it - it-is we will it name with thing mouth cover thing the
e. ...is what we call a lid.

33. a. `ndɛ̌lɛ̂ɛgbɔma!
b. (-‾---)
c. (.ì) ndɛ̌ lɛ̂ɛ gbɔma
d. it say now again
e. Say it again!

34. a. gbɛ̂-mia.á`nungɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàma
b. (‾ --‾ _‾---__)
c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) nungâ.a .í jí sià ma
d. what it-is emph. is people these on
e. What are these people wearing?

35. a. pu-lomɛ.î-miatǐma
b. (- - - ¯ - - _-)
c. pu ndomǎ .í mia ((yɛ̀)) tǐ ma
d. white man shirt the it-is is them on
e. They are wearing white-man's clothes.

36. a. yeépù-lomɛ.íjî-mia
b. (-¯ - - - ¯¯ _-)
c. yeé pu ndomǎ .í jí mia
d. : white man shirt this it-is
e. It is this white-man's shirt...

37. a. mǎˋtɔ̀.i.àplînti.í
b. (¯ _- - ¯ - -)
c. mǔ ((.à)) (.ì) tól.i .à plînti .í
d. we will it name with print the
e. ...we call a print.

38. a. hindɛ̂.íjî-mia
b. (- ¯- - _-)
c. hindâ .í jí mia
d. place this it-is
e. It is this place...

39. a. mánàlól.i.àngítiyakìči.í
b. (¯ -- - _ --- _- ¯)
c. mǔ ((.à)) nà tól.i .à ngítiya kìči(n) .í
d. we will there name with outdoor kitchen the
e. ...we call the outdoor kitchen.

40. a. ínámǔˋfulɛ.îhul.ɔ́yèéhìndɛ̂.íjî-mia
b. (¯¯¯ _- ¯_ -_-_ ¯- - _-)
c. íná mǔ (yɛ̀) fula .í hu 1.ɔ́ yeé hindâ .í jí mia
d. if we are village the in emph. : place this it-is
e. If we were in the village, this place...

41. a. mánàlól.i.àwali.îhu
b. (‾ - ‾ ‾ - - - ‾ _)
c. mǔ ((.à)) nà tól.i .à wali .í hu
d. we will there call by wali.îhu
e. ...would be called wali.îhu.

42. a. kɛ́nùngɛ̂.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ`tɛɛ̌.îhu`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ - ‾ - - - - _ ‾ - - ‾ _ -)
c. kɛ́ nungâ.a .í jí sià tǐ (yɛ̀) taǎ .í hu (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. but people these they are town the in is emph.
e. But these people are in town...

43. a. gbɛva.ámǔâ.á`símɛ̂nti-wɛ.ɛ.ɛ̂lɔ́mà
b. (- - ‾ _ ‾ - - - _ - - ‾ - _)
c. gbɛva l.ɔ́ mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) símɛ̂nti pɛ́l.ɛ .í tɔ́ ma
d. because emph. we - emph. are cement house the see at
e. ...because we see a cement house...

44. a. tǐwôoma
b. (- ‾ _ _)
c. ((yɛ̀)) tǐ pôoma
d. is them behind
e. ...behind them.

45. a. mǎ`gɛ̀lɛlɛbéi`l.ɔ́
b. (‾ - - - ‾ ‾ -)
c. mǔ (.à) kɛlɛ̂lɛ ((yɛ̀)) béi (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́
d. we will stop is here is emph.
e. We will stop here.

Slide Eighteen: The Palm Wine Seller

1. a. ndɔɔ̌maǎjiǎmɔ̀.í
b. (- ‾ _ ‾ _ ‾ - -)
c. ndɔɔ̌ maǎ siǎ mɔ̀ .í
d. wine on sell person the
e. 'The Wine Seller'

2. a. gbɛ̂-mɔl.ɔ́`.àkênɛ.íjímúngǐlɔ́mà
   b. (‾ _ ‾ _‾–––– _–_)
   c. gbɛ̂ mɔ l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) .à kêna .í jí mǔ ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ tɔ́ ma
   d. what person emph. is as man this we are him see at
   e. What kind of person are we looking at...

3. a. `heǐn.ì`gélegênjɛ.íjîmahú
   b. (–‾ _ ––– –––_ –)
   c. (.ì) heǐ n.ì (yɛ̀) gélegênja .í jí mahú
   d. past sit did is bicycle this on
   e. ...sitting on this bicycle?

4. a. ndɔɔ̌maǎjiǎmɔ̀.î-mia
   b. (–‾–‾_‾––__)
   c. ndɔɔ̌ maǎ siǎ mɔ .í mia
   d. wine on sell person the it-is
   e. He's a wine merchant.

5. a. gbɛ̂-mia.á`ngìlingɔ̀
   b. (‾ ––‾ _ _ –)
   c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ (.ì) ngilî ngɔ̀
   d. what it-is emph. it tie is
   e. What is tied...

6. a. `ngélegênjɛ.íjîwôoma
   b. (‾‾‾ –––– __)
   c. (yɛ̀) ngélegênja .í jí pôoma
   d. is bicycle this behind
   e. ...behind this bicycle.

7. a. ndɔɔ̌-gbula`saw.á-mia
   b. (__ ‾ _ _ – ‾_)
   c. ndɔɔ̌ kpulǎ (yɛ̀) saw.á mia
   d. wine cask is three it-is
   e. There are three wine casks...

8. a. `ngìliñgɔ̀`pôoma
   b. (– – – ‾_ _)
   c. (.ì) ngilî ngɔ̀ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) pôoma
   d. it tie is is it back-onto
   e. ...tied on its back.

9. a. ndɔɔ̌.îyeélásigbɛ̂-mia.á
   b. (_ _ ‾_ – – – ‾ _ _ –)
   c. ndɔɔ̌ .í yeé lási gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́
   d. wine the : type what it-is <u>emph.</u>
   e. What kind of wine...

10. a. `ndɔɔ̌-gbulɛ.íjîsiàhu
    b. (_ _ ‾ – – – – _ _)
    c. (yɛ̀) ndɔɔ̌ kpulǎ .í jí sià hu
    d. is wine cask these in
    e. ...is in these casks?

11. a. tɔ́kpɔ-lɔɔ.î-miatǐhu
    b. (‾ ‾ ‾ – – _ _ _ ‾)
    c. tɔ́kpɔ ndɔɔ̌ .í mia ((yɛ̀)) tǐ hu
    d. palm wine the it-is is them in
    e. Palm wine is in them.

12. a. gbɛ̂-loma-mia.á`kênɛ.íjîma
    b. (‾ _ _ _ _ ‾ – _ _ _ _)
    c. gbɛ̂ ndomǎ mia l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) kêna .í jí ma
    d. what shirt it-is <u>emph.</u> is man this on
    e. What kind of shirt does this man have on?

13. a. ndomǎ-lɛl.i.î-miangǐma
    b. (_ _ ‾ – – _ _ _ ‾)
    c. ndomǎ tɛl.ǐ .í mia ((yɛ̀)) ngǐ ma
    d. shirt black the it-is is him on
    e. He is wearing a black shirt.

14. a. mî-mia.ákênɛ.íjînà
    b. (¯ __¯¯ --- _)
    c. mî mia l.ɔ́ kêna .í jí ((yɛ̀)) nà
    d. where it-is emph. man this is there
    e. Where is this man?

15. a. kênɛ.íjî`ból.ɔ́
    b. (¯--- - -)
    c. kêna .í jí (yɛ̀) bó l.ɔ́
    d. man this is Bo emph.
    e. This man is in Bo...

16. a. .ɔ̀tɛɛ̂nga.ì`salôonl.ɔ́
    b. (--¯ __ -¯- -)
    c. .ɔ̀ tɛɛ̂nga .ì (yɛ̀) salôon l.ɔ́
    d. or perhaps he is Sierra Leone emph.
    e. ...or perhaps on the peninsula...

17. a. .ɔ̀tɛɛ̂nga.ì`kɛ̂nɛmal.ɔ́
    b. (__¯ -- ¯¯-¯)
    c. .ɔ̀ tɛɛ̂nga .ì (yɛ̀) kɛ̂nɛma l.ɔ́
    d. or perhaps he is Kenema emph.
    e. ...or perhaps in Kenema.

18. a. pɛ́l.ɛ.îyeégbɛ̂nyikɔl.ɔ́
    b. (¯ ¯¯_- - _ _ -)
    c. pɛ́l.ɛ .í yeé gbɛ̂ nyikɔ l.ɔ́
    d. house the : what kind emph.
    e. What kind of house...

19. a. mǔ`tɔ́mà
    b. (¯ - _)
    c. mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma
    d. we are it see at
    e. ...do we see?

20. a. kɔtǔ-wɛ.ɛ.ɛ̂sià-miamútǐlɔ́mà
    b. (-- ‾---_ --‾_-_)
    c. kutǔ pɛ́l.ɛ .í sià mia mǔ ((yɛ̀)) tǐ tɔ́ ma
    d. stone house the <u>pl.</u> it-is we are them see at
    e. We are seeing stone houses.

21. a. kɔtǔ-wɛ.ɛ.ɛ́jîsiàtǐ`lolɛ́
    b. (-- ‾----_‾ _-)
    c. kɔtǔ pɛ́l.ɛ .í jí sià tǐ (yɛ̀) lolɛ́
    d. stone house these they are how many
    e. How many stone houses are there?

22. a. tǐ`felé
    b. (‾ _-)
    c. tǐ (yɛ̀) felé
    d. they are two
    e. There are two of them.

23. a. gbɛ̂-mia.á`ndɔɔ́.ə̂mɛ.í
    b. (‾ --‾ _‾‾--)
    c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ndɔɔ́l.ə̂ ma .í
    d. what it-is <u>emph.</u> is earth place the
    e. What is on the ground?

24. a. pə̂l.ɔ-gbɔ.i.í
    b. (‾ - --‾)
    c. pə̂l.ɔ kpɔl.ǔ .í
    d. mud red the
    e. Red mud...

25. a. kɛ́kpìtǐ-vale.îsià
    b. (‾-- ‾---_)
    c. kɛ́ kpitǐ fále .í sià
    d. and grass sprout the <u>pl.</u>
    e. ...and grass blades.

26. a. gbə̂.ɔ́gbɔ̀mamǔ`tɔ́mà`nɛnɛ.íjîhu
    b. (‾- _ _‾- _--‾‾_)
    c. gbɛ̂ l.ɔ́ gbɔma mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma (yɛ̀) nɛnɛ .í jí hu
    d. what <u>emph.</u> else we are it see at is picture this in
    e. What else do we see in this picture?

27. a. mǔâ.á`ndopôlɔ́mà`heǐn.ì
    b. (-¯- _¯-_-¯_)
    c. mǔ â l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) ndopô tɔ́ ma (.ì) heǐ n.ì
    d. we - emph. are boy see at past sit did
    e. We see a boy sitting...

28. a. pɛ́l.ɛ.íjîsiàyelá-gee.êla
    b. (¯ ¯¯¯ -__¯¯--_)
    c. pɛ́l.ɛ .í jí sià yelá yeé .í nda
    d. house these one : the door-at
    e. ...at the door of one of these houses.

29. a. gbɛ̂-wɛ.ɛl.ɔ́`.àpɛ́l.ɛ.íjîsia
    b. (¯ __¯ _¯ ¯¯¯-_)
    c. gbɛ̂ pɛ́l.ɛ l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) .à pɛ́l.ɛ .í jí sià
    d. what house emph. is as house these
    e. What kind of house is this?

30. a. fel.ě-gɔ́mɛ̀.î-mia
    b. (_ _ ¯--__)
    c. fel.ě kɔ́ mà .í mia
    d. trade execute place the it-is
    e. It is a trading place.

31. a. gbɛ̂-mia.ágbɔ̀mamǔ`tɔ́mà
    b. (¯ --¯ _ _¯-_)
    c. gbɛ̂ mia l.ɔ́ gbɔma mǔ ((yɛ̀)) (.ì) tɔ́ ma
    d. what it-is emph. else we are it see at
    e. What else do we see?

32. a. gbémbe.emàǎnyɛǐngɔ̀.í
    b. (¯ ¯¯-¯_¯ _-)
    c. gbémbel.e maǎ nyɛǐ ngɔ̀ .í
    d. board on write is the
    e. A signboard. (A written-on plank.)

33. a. àmǔ`han.ǐ.îsiàlágɛ́lɛ̂ɛgbɔ̀ma
    b. (_¯ - - ¯ -_ - - - _ _ _)
    c. à mǔ (?) han.ǐ .í sià ndá kɛ́ lɛ̂ɛ gbɔma
    d. let us thing the pl. name show now again
    e. Let us tell the names of things again.

34. gélegênjɛ.í

35. a. kênɛ.î`heǐn.ì`gélegênjɛ.îmahú
    b. (¯ - - _¯ _ - - - - - _ -)
    c. kêna .í (.ì) heǐ n.ì (yɛ̀) gélegênja .í mahú
    d. man the past sit did is bicycle the on
    e. A man sitting on a bicycle.

36. a. ndɔɔ̌-gbulɛ.îsià
    b. (- - ¯ - - -_)
    c. ndɔɔ̌ kpulǎ .í sià
    d. wine cask the pl.
    e. Wine casks.

37. a. kɔtǔ-wɛ.ɛ.ɛ̂sià
    b. (- - ¯ - - -_)
    c. kɔtǔ pɛ́l.ɛ .í sià
    d. stone house the pl.
    e. Stone houses.

38. a. ndopô`heǐn.ì`pɛ́l.ɛ.îla
    b. (- ¯ _¯ _ - - - _)
    c. ndopô (.ì) heǐ n.ì (yɛ̀) pɛ́l.ɛ .í la
    d. boy past sit did is house the door-at
    e. A boy sitting by the house door.

39. a. pɔ̂l.ɔ-gbɔ.i.í
    b. (¯ - - -¯)
    c. pɔ̂l.ɔ kpɔl.ǔ .í
    d. mud red the
    e. Red mud.

40. a. kpitǐ-vale.í
    b. (- - ¯ - -)
    c. kpitǐ fále .í
    d. grass sprout the
    e. Blades of grass.

41. a. gbémbe.emàǎnyɛǐngɔ̀.ítàápèl.ě.í
    b. (¯ ¯ ¯ _ ¯ _ ¯ _ ¯ _ ¯ _ _ -)
    c. gbémbel.e maǎ nyɛǐ ngɔ̀ .í taá pel.ě .í
    d. board on write is the and road the
    e. A signboard and the road.

USING THE DRILLS

The organization of the drills prepares students to form full sentences by training them to produce locative phrases and nominal phrases before introducing full sentence forms. Comments accompany the various drills. Tonal polarization and tonal sharing (sometimes called tonal extension) refer to tone assimilation. There is a distinction made between phonetic pitch and the tonal source marks that are used in the transcription. Lexical prime refers to roots with one meaning but two or more possible forms, (tonal variation, for instance). Morphological prime refers to a particular form which may have more than one meaning.

Various types of drills are designed to demand special competencies from students. Tone is a constant concern. Anyone who cannot or is not willing to master Mende tone should pass this book on to someone who can and will. It is intended that students master the tonal marking system in Chapter Two and continue to apply their knowledge for the next twenty chapters.

In the drills where sentences are formed, a drill that might be called a 'prime assembly' drill is used. A drill of this type is used for every major grammatical 'point'. The student is asked to make sentences out of the lexical primes he is given. The student is expected to 'supply the grammar forms' and perform morphophonemic changes and tonal interpretation. It should be added here that students are expected to 'parse' every response sentence back into lexical primes. Since tone and morphophonemics operate to disguise the lexical primes from the listener to an amazing degree, it is felt that this concentrated effort in these areas is necessary in Mende.

The student should practice all material until it is mastered, preferably with an informant or with tapes.

CHAPTER ONE

VOWELS AND CONSONANTS

There are seven vowels in Mende. They are represented in this course and in the standard Mende orthography by the following symbols: i, e, ɛ, a, ɔ, o, u. The closest American English vowel sounds are the vowel sounds in:

peat	for Mende i
pet	for Mende ɛ
thought	for Mende ɔ
father	for Mende a

One may think of Mende e, o and u as "pure" vowels or better, single vowels. The English words *clay*, *boat*, and *cute* can be transcribed phonetically as *kley*, *bowt*, and *kyuwt*. The Mende *e* is approximately the *e* (without the *y*) of *kley*, and the *o* is the *o* (without the *w*) of *bowt*, and the *u* is the *u* (without the *y* or the *w*) of *kyuwt*. It will not suffice to use the American English equivalents for any Mende sounds. Your teacher will help you become alert to the proper pronunciation.

Drill I -- Vowel Practice. Repeat the following words after the teacher, imitating carefully his pronunciation of the vowels and the tone.

sawa	law	kɔ́l.ɔ	to know
panda	carefully	bɔlɔ	hat
lal.a	paddle	kɔ̂ɔ	taste
maâna	banana	bɔndɔ́	okra
mbaǎ	rice	kɔyɔ	clumsy
pɛ́l.ɛ	house	tɔw.ɔ	bean
sɛ́sɛ	chip	búl.u	trumpet
tɛnɛ̂	Monday	bubû	to fly
hɛ́l.ɛ	to squat	núm.u	person
fɛfɛ̌	wind	súsu	deep
bɛ.ɛbɛ.ɛ	soft	pû	cave
gbɛhɛ́	bench	ngúl.u	tree

bɛlɛ	trousers	yél.e	shout
toôlo	kola nut	hél.e	elephant
pôowôo	domesticated pigeon	fel.ě	commerce
fól.o	sun, day	pel.ě	road
bomuko	bush pigeon	kíti	decision
koǒ	stomach	kíl.i	round
ndóndo	to be silent	fîbi	'splat'
kól.o	obedience	hinî	husband
nyahâ	wife		

Drill II -- Vowel Practice. Repeat each pair of words after your teacher.

hél.e		kɔ̂ɔ	
pel.ě		kokó	
kɛkɛ̌		yél.e	to shout
pɛ́l.ɛ		yɛ́l.ɛ	to laugh
mɛmɛ	mirror	hinî	
pɛ́l.ɛ		pundî	mosquito
bɔlɔ		kal.ǐ	snake
fól.o		kâl.i	hoe
kokó	kokoyam	hél.e	elephant
fôo	year	hɛ́l.ɛ	to hang
fól.o		hɛ́l.ɛ	
fôo		pɛ́l.ɛ	
bɔlɔ		kol.ǒ	ember
fól.o		kɔl.ɔ̌	book
pel.ě		kɔwǔ	firewood
pil.î	to throw	kɔ̂wu	box
sawa		sále	parable
kɔ̂ɔ		hál.e	medicine
bomuko			
búl.u			
fólo			
súsu			
núm.u			
kól.o	obedience		

When you have mastered the pronunciation of the vowels of the preceding words, you are ready to take Test #1.

Consonants

Mende has a series of pre-nasalized consonants: mb, nd, ñj or nj, and ng. Each nasal consonant is articulated (formed) in the same place that the other consonant is formed. Some speakers pronounce the nasalization very lightly, sometimes to the extent that it is nearly inaudible. Regardless of what you hear (or think you hear) a Mende speaker say, *your* Mende will be satisfactory only if you observe the presence of the nasals as given in the source transcriptions.

Drill III -- Consonant Practice. Repeat the following words after the teacher, imitating carefully his pronunciation. (Note to teacher: indefinite form please.)

nd

1.	ndovǒ	frog	6.	ndúvu	raffia
2.	ndɔ́vɔ	bad luck	7.	nduvǔ	ashes
3.	ndapǐ	fight	8.	ndɔɔ̌	wine
4.	ndó	child	9.	ndakâ	buddy
5.	ndomǎ	shirt	10.	ndí	heart

mb

1.	mbaǎ	rice	6.	mból.o	neck
2.	mbiyɛ̂	name	7.	mbomǎ	hammock
3.	mbû	owl	8.	mbówa	knife
4.	mbalǔ	cane	9.	mboyâ	broth
5.	mbalǎ	sheep	10.	mbɔɔ̌	dear, sweetheart

nj

1.	ǹjé*	mother	6.	njé	goat
2.	njaǎ	water	7.	njɛpɛ̌	talk
3.	njal.ǎ	lion	8.	njiǐ	sleep
4.	njal.ǎ	indigo	9.	njolǎ	filth
5.	njasǎ	palm frond	10.	njow.ǒ	potato

---

*ǹjé when possessed, njè otherwise.

ng

1.	ngá	point	11.	ngetê	pestle
2.	ngafâ	spirit	12.	ngéya	to buy
3.	ngáku	crab	13.	ngêya	palm of hand
4.	ngál.i	to break	14.	ngíl.i	to cook
5.	ngalî	thorn	15.	ngól.i	ear, tail
6.	ngál.a	mat	16.	ngóto	buttocks
7.	ngayâ	tears	17.	ngufê	shame
8.	ngél.e	scar	18.	ngúl.u	tree
9.	ngel.ě	sky	19.	ngulû	cobra
10.	ngengě	work	20.	ngúndu	raw

You may appreciate the fact that pre-nasalized consonants are not too difficult to produce; they occur very frequently. Here are more.

mb

1.	mbaâ	buddy	6.	mbɛtɛ̌	scaffold
2.	mbakǎ	accordian	7.	mbô	to shoot
3.	mbatû	to praise	8.	mbolě	blind
4.	mbekě	brush, branch	9.	mbondâ	family
5.	mbɛl.ɛ̌	honor	10.	mbumbǔ	pick up

nd

1.	ndá	mouth	6.	ndɛ́l.i	to wet
2.	ndakâ	fellow	7.	ndɛvû	life
3.	ndáw.a	leaf	8.	ndí	heart
4.	ndámba	crocodile	9.	ndil.î	fly
5.	ndě	to say	10.	ndíle	python

nj

1.	njeǐ	to lower	3.	njîva	unclean
2.	njîa	quarrel	4.	njoyô	to bring (a gift)

ng

1.	ngâma	face
2.	ngaw.ú	bush yam
3.	ngejě	stale
4.	ngel.ê	to fry
5.	ngeyǎ	rope
6.	ngewɔ̂ɔ	God
7.	ngî.la	dog
8.	ngíl.a	sweep
9.	ngíye	hill
10.	ngolâ	forest
11.	ngól.o	to break
12.	ngolǒ	chimpanzee
13.	ngómbi	knee
14.	ngɔmbǔ	fire
15.	nguǔ	head

There are a few Mende words beginning with ŋ. Keep practicing them with your teacher until they are mastered.

1.	ŋamǎ	blood
2.	ŋanyǎ	sand
3.	ŋɔ́na	to cut
4.	ŋɔ̂n.a	bitter
5.	ŋɔnǐ	bird, oyster

When this is mastered you are ready to take Test #2.

Another less familiar sound is the Mende ny. Repeat the following words after the teacher, imitating carefully his pronunciation.

1.	nyangbě	fox
2.	nyahâ	woman
3.	nyámu	bad
4.	nyandě	beautiful
5.	nyanî	to spoil
6.	nyawɛ́	March
7.	nyɛ́	fish
8.	nyɛnɛ̂	liver
9.	nyî	to bite
10.	nyína	rat
11.	nyɔɔ̌	corn
12.	nyɔkɔ̂	sugar cane
13.	nyúma	to chew
14.	nyɛî	to write
15.	nyɔ̂ɔnyɔ̂ɔ	one another

When you have mastered the vowels, tones and consonants, you are ready to take Test #3.

Labio-Velars

There are three sounds in Mende (b, gb, and kp) which you will at first find difficult to distinguish. You will find some difficulty in producing them also.

Listen to the following as the teacher reads. These are not necessarily words, just syllables illustrating the three consonants before the seven vowels.

1.	bi	gbi	kpi
2.	be	gbe	kpe
3.	bɛ	gbɛ	kpɛ
4.	ba	gba	kpa
5.	bɔ	gbɔ	kpɔ
6.	bo	gbo	kpo
7.	bu	gbu	kpu

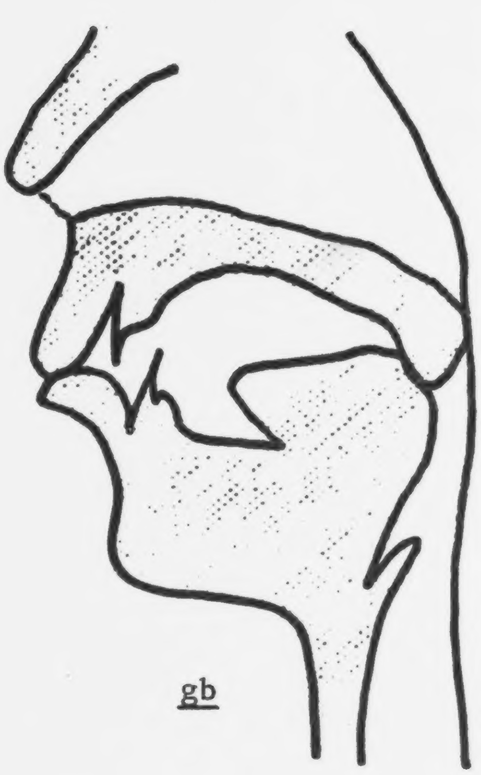
The student would do well to master the labio-velars now. Listen to your teacher reading the following syllables with the consonants in question between vowels.

	b		gb		kp
1.	ibi	1.	igbi	1.	ikpi
2.	ebe	2.	egbe	2.	ekpe
3.	ɛbɛ	3.	ɛgbɛ	3.	ɛkpɛ
4.	aba	4.	agba	4.	akpa
5.	ɔbɔ	5.	ɔgbɔ	5.	ɔkpɔ
6.	obo	6.	ogbo	6.	okpo
7.	ubu	7.	ugbu	7.	ukpu

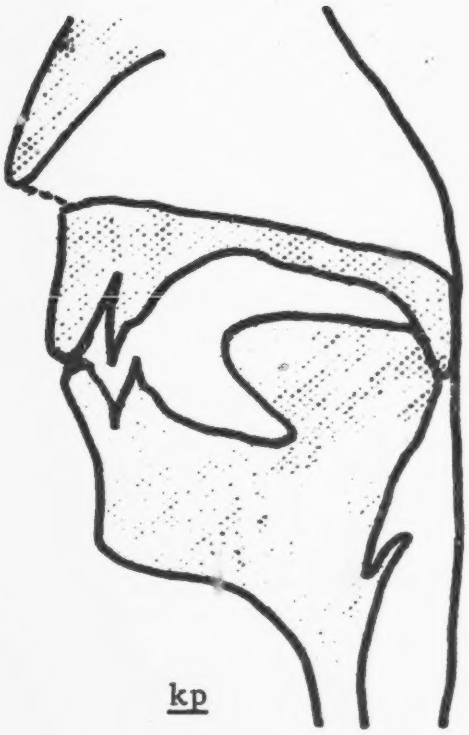
Listen to the above sequences for a few times and then try Tests #4 and #5.

Producing Labio-velars

The articulators are more tense for kp than for gb. For the p of kp contact should be centered along the dividing line between the normally dry part of the lips and the wet part. The contact for the b of gb is made with the lips protruding forward slightly (and relaxed) with a greater empty space between the lips and teeth than with the p of kp.



gb



kp

Practice producing gb's by repeating these words after your teacher. (Note to teacher: nouns indefinite please. These forms are not to be considered as base forms.)

I.	1.	nyangbě	fox	12.	ligbil.i	cloudy
	2.	dágba	banana tree heart	13.	lúgbu	dew
	3.	dígbe	heel	14.	mbogbá	cutlass
	4.	díngbo	building post	15.	ndégbe	catfish
	5.	dɔ́gbɛ	tender	16.	ndɔgbɔ̌	bush
	6.	fogbâ	to whip	17.	pɛ́gba	January
	7.	hagbě	rabbit	18.	sángba	musical instruments
	8.	higbɛ̌	sickness	19.	tigbî	to lean
	9.	jagba	basin	20.	togbǒ	to wither
	10.	kúgba	warrior	21.	tɔ̂gbɔ	to soak
	11.	kúgbe	hired rice farmers	22.	tugbâ	to stumble
II.	1.	hákpa	plasas	3.	hókpa	nostril
	2.	híkpɛ	groan	4.	ndakpâ	to mature

	5.	ndɛ́kpɛ	to tilt	11.	tɔ́kplâ	bottom
	6.	ndɛkpû	to limp	12.	tɔ́kpɔ	palm tree
	7.	ndikpǎ	arrow	13.	tukpê	to push
	8.	ndikpɔ̌	walking stick	14.	wáyâkpa	eight
	9.	ngákpa	sharpen	15.	yakpé	alone
	10.	ngukpě	stump	16.	yékpe	self
III.	1.	gbahá	swinging bridge	6.	gboji	plum
	2.	gbanyâ	pliers	7.	gbókito*	sandles
	3.	gbě	stop	8.	gboyâ	ocean
	4.	gbéng.i	yesterday	9.	gbɔndâ	stubborn
	5.	gbɛhɛ́	bench	10.	gbɔ̂ɔn	again
IV.	1.	kpa.ǎ	farm	17.	kpáva	bag
	2.	kpaâ	shrimp	18.	kpaw.â	to count
	3.	kpaǎ	debt	19.	kpâw.o	shout
	4.	kpahâ	to fail	20.	kpawɔ̌	forked stick
	5.	kpakî	shoulder	21.	kpáw.u	bridge
	6.	kpako	adult	22.	kpayǎ	headtie
	7.	kpákpa	to nail	23.	kpê	look at
	8.	kpál.a	crude	24.	kpé.e	serve
	9.	kpál.a	lap	25.	kpekâ	knife
	10.	kpalɛ̂	pain	26.	kpékpe	good
	11.	kpáma	suspenders	27.	kpel.ě	refusal
	12.	kpambî	tracks	28.	kpénda	to pluck
	13.	kpandɛ̂	gun	29.	kpéte	swamp
	14.	kpángba	broom	30.	kpɛ́	to drive
	15.	kpatɛ̂	wealth	31.	kpɛgbɛ	comb
	16.	kpató	cutlass	32.	kpɛ́kpɛ	cockroach

---

*Two tonal possibilities, gbôkito, gbókito.

33.	kpɛl.ɛ̌	to join
34.	kpɛ́l.ɛ	all
35.	kpɛlɛ̌	beard
36.	kpɛmbô	judgement
37.	kpɛnî	lizard
38.	kpíndi	night
39.	kpól.e	unripe
40.	kpolǐ	worm
41.	kpol.ǒ	salt
42.	kponyɛ̂	grumble
43.	kpów.o	ankle
44.	kpɔkɔ̂	evening
45.	kpɔl.ǔ	ripe, red
46.	kpɔnɔ	marrow
47.	kpɔ́yɔ	cowrie shell
48.	kpû	attic
49.	kpuhǎ	body
50.	kpukɔ̌	bed

V.
1. ndikpǎ
2. tukpê
3. yakpé
4. pɛ́gba
5. tugbâ
6. kpaw.â
7. kpál.a
8. kpɛgbɛ
9. hagbě
10. kpuhǎ
11. kpɛ́
12. gbɔ̂ɔn
13. gbanyâ
14. dɔ́gbɛ
15. nyangbě
16. gbókito
17. gbɔndâ
18. kpɔ́yɔ
19. kpɛnî
20. kpekâ
21. kpéte
22. kpol.ǒ
23. ndégbe
24. lúgbu
25. ngukpě

When you can pronounce these words properly you are ready for Test #6.

Nasalized (h)

Every (h) that does not occur at the beginning of a word is nasalized and the vowel that follows it is heavily nasalized. Nasalized (h) and the nasalized vowel will not be marked differently from other (h)'s and vowels.

Repeat these words after the teacher:

mahǎ	chief	fáha	crowd
nɛ́h.ɛ	watch pot	gbahá	hammock bridge
nɔ́h.ɔ	scabies	gbɛhɛ́	bench
ndahɛ̂	promise	káha	load
nyahâ	wife	kûha	tall
sahu	by help of	kpahâ	fail
síha	lend	kpɔhǔ	corn flour
tɔhɛ̂	cough	kpuhǎ	body

Vocabulary Study

The study of vocabulary begins right now. It is to be done indirectly at first, intensively later. In the various tonal drills that follow the student will need to know which nouns are marked like gbɛhɛ́, tone: (▁▔) and which are marked like mitǎ, tone: (▁▔), etc. Since ultimately the student must learn the vocabulary, he might as well begin now, at least to a limited degree. Association between a Mende form and the English gloss is all that is hoped for at this point. The glosses given with each word are chosen toward this end. In most cases there are many other meanings and more specific definitions given in the lexicon. The student should consult the lexicon for a fuller definition of any word he does not understand. The glosses serve the additional purpose of helping the Mende teacher (native speaker) recognize the meaning of a word since the Mende orthography looks different from the one used here.

A Note on Vowel Length

When we speak about vowel length in Mende we are referring to the actual duration of a vowel and not to vowel quality. Vowels may be long in a given word because that is simply the way the word is to be pronounced, e.g., kpé.e in maǎgbé.e 'to serve'. They may be long when a consonant is deleted. The consonants most often deleted are l, w and sometimes n, m and here and there f, k, y. When a word has consonants that can be deleted, a period (.) is written after that consonant in the source transcription. (e.g. kpel.ě)

When the consonant is omitted, length on the vowels is quite noticeable. The period that is used to mark consonants which can be omitted serves to mark length after the consonant is omitted. Thus what is phonetically (ndá:) 'leaf' is ndá.a (from ndáw.a) in the source transcription. The period marks vowel length only when it occurs between vowels. Elsewhere it serves other functions which will be discussed elsewhere. There are in addition a few rules that can be helpful in deciding when to delete the consonants which are followed by a period. These too will be discussed elsewhere.

When two vowels are written in words such as *mbaǎ* 'rice', the vowels are not necessarily long (even though there are two). The double vowels without the period in between are written for the purposes of *tonal mapping*.

In addition to the length that occurs when intervocalic consonants are deleted, you may find that other vowels and the *l*, *m*, *n*'s etc. included in the word with the vowels are lengthened for purposes of rhythm, pacing or other prosodic reasons.

All of these matters are to be discussed later. For now, repeat after the teacher, omitting consonants when he does and pronouncing them when he does.

Additional Phonetic Notes.

1. Phonetic juncture (pause, phrase terminal) is not marked in this transcription. In rapid speech, a juncture is often realized as a glottal stop. Listen to your teacher's pronunciation.
2. The *j* is made with the blade of the tongue in contact with the hard palate by many speakers.
3. The *t* is often heavily aspirated, especially by women.
4. The *i* of *bí*, *ngí*, *ngǐ* and *tǐ* is very often centralized before bilabials and other 'grave' sounds.
5. When a period (.) follows an *l* or *w*, that consonant is subject to deletion. When a period precedes an *l*, the vowel that precedes the period is subject to shortening, reduction or deletion.
6. A *u* that follows a *k* or *g* will very often be realized as a *u* or *w* or something in between.
7. The length of nouns and verbs is usually greater than that of affixes.

CHAPTER TWO

TONE

It can be said that words like *kâl.i* 'hoe' and *kal.ǐ* 'snake' are alike except for tone and meaning. The tone is part of each word and tonal information for each word must be learned as part of the word. The matter would be greatly simplified if one could learn the proper tone for a word and have it done with. It is not that simple. The difficulty in learning Mende is increased by the fact that there is a tonal system which seems to operate to disguise each word. A word can change its tones according to the tones of the words near it or grammatical structures it occurs in. The changes are systematic and predictable *if* you know the correct tonal information about the words involved and how to apply certain rules to the words. The words are written in the lexicon and discussed in the following chapters in the form which can be converted to all the other forms by the application of the proper rules.

Notation Systems

A page of music is not musical sounds. The written musical score displays the information a musician needs to produce the musical sounds the composer had in mind when he wrote the music. Of course, orthographies are the same. You can look at an alphabet as a set of *mapping symbols* that a speaker needs to produce the speech sounds the writer intended.

Both the musician and the speaker who is reading aloud utilize a set of learned neuro-muscular interpretive patterns to convert the notations into the finished product. There is a lot more to both processes than what is recorded in the orthography or musical notes.

A certain basic amount of information is included in the notation and a set of rules must be applied to the notation. The transcription used in this course provides as much of the basic tonal information as needed, in the form most suitable for "interpretation" by the student. The transcription is not phonetic (nor is there a claim made that it is phonemic) nor is there any suggestion that it be used in place of the standard Mende orthography even though in some ways the inclusion of tone marking would be an improvement. It is in fact far more suitable for language learning than the standard orthography. The notation you will be introduced to in the following pages is to be considered as the *source* of a phonetic transcription of Mende. The source transcription and the rules that convert it to a phonetic transcription *represent a model* of the way Mende speech forms are produced. That this is what a Mende speaker actually does is not claimed here. The source transcription and the rules that convert it to phonetics provide a learnable model which incorporates what Mende speakers 'know' about Mende words.

Going Backwards

If a student, Mende speaker or linguist sets out to transcribe spoken Mende he will not (at least at first) transcribe in the source transcription but in phonetics. There are a few simple diagnostic tests that can be performed on new words that one learns which enables one to assign the proper source transcription to the word. When one knows the source form and the rules one can go from source to phonetics very easily. The fact that one cannot easily go backwards from phonetics to the source shows how necessary it is to learn the source forms. That is, one cannot immediately surmise much of the tonal, semantic or syntactic potentials of a word from phonetic transcription of just any of its forms.

The Tones of Base ('Indefinite') Forms

There are a number of different tonal sequences in Mende. Short bars have been written after the words indicating the relative pitch of each vowel in each word.

1. sawa (▁▁)
2. lal.a (▁▁)
3. mɛmɛ (▁▁)
4. bɔlɔ (▁▁)
5. pɛ́l.ɛ (▔▔)
6. sɛ́sɛ (▔▔)
7. núm.u (▔▔)
8. gbɛhɛ́ (▁▔)
9. bɔndɔ́ (▁▔)
10. kokó (▁▔)
11. mbal.ǎ (▁▔)
12. fel.ě (▁▔)
13. fɛfɛ̌ (▁▔)
14. mbaǎ (▁▔)
15. njaǎ (▁▔)
16. hɛɛ̌ (▁▔)
17. kɔ̂w.u (▔▁)
18. kâl.i (▔▁)
19. sûbu (▔▁)
20. mbû (╲)
21. bâ (╲)
22. kû (╲)
23. tɛnɛ̂ (▁╲)
24. hinî (▁╲)
25. nyahâ (▁╲)

These twenty-five words in their 'indefinite' forms contain one or two tonal units. Both vowels of #'s 1, 2, 3, 4 and the first vowels of #'s 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 23, 24, 25 are under the influence of a low tonal unit. Both vowels of #'s 5, 6, 7 and the second vowels of #'s 8, 9 and 10 are under the influence of a high tonal unit. The second vowels of #'s 11 through 16 are high in this form but low elsewhere. The two vowels of 17, 18 and 19; the only vowels of 20, 21 and 22 and the second vowels of 23, 24 and 25 all are influenced by a falling tonal unit. Note: It is perfectly possible to look at the tones of these Mende words as a series of 1, 2 or 3 high or low tones. Looking at tone in Mende as a unit which may cover one or more vowels or syllables is far more useful and makes the Mende language far easier to learn. The tonal markings used here (´ ^ ˇ and sometimes `) do not indicate high and low tones, but the source of the pitch. Numbers 8-16 are (▁▔) or (╱) in their isolated indefinite forms but in other situations numbers 11-16 (marked ˇ) will have (▁▁). It is essential to learn the tone source markings of words and to be able to interpret them as pitches. A grave accent is sometimes used to indicate low tone if a word ending on a high tone immediately precedes it. Some suffixes always have low tone marked on them.

Practice in Distinguishing Tone

Drill I. Repeat the following words after the teacher. Concentrate on the vowels and the tone. (Teacher: be certain to give each word in the indefinite form.)

1. foni
2. bɔlɔ
3. hél.e
4. hinî
5. yɛ́l.ɛ
6. fól.o
7. kól.o
8. kɔ́l.ɔ
9. kol.ǒ
10. kîti
11. toôlo
12. núm.u
13. kal.ǐ
14. pôowôo
15. sɛ́sɛ
16. fɛfɛ̌
17. bubû
18. búl.u
19. tɛnɛ̂
20. bɔndɔ́
21. mbaǎ
22. gbɛhɛ́
23. bomuko
24. koǒ
25. kɛkɛ̌
26. mɛmɛ
27. kokó
28. pel.ě
29. pil.î
30. tɔw.ɔ
31. kɔwǔ
32. pundî
33. sál.e
34. ndomǎ
35. pɛ́l.ɛ
36. njaǎ
37. yél.e
38. kíl.i
39. nyahâ
40. kɔyɔ

When you have finished, do Test #7.

Drill II. Repeat these words after the teacher:

1.	fakâl.i	pawpaw
2.	fêlama	junction
3.	fɛfɛ̂l.ɛ	to hover
4.	gɔmɔndɔ	slothful
5.	gɔ̂nɛ̂	cat
6.	gbɔ́kito	sandals
7.	lasimɔ́	amulet
8.	lel.emá	praying mantis
9.	njêngul.û	tarantula
10.	ngal.îmɔ̀	blacksmith

When you have mastered the production of tone and the transcription of tone with bars you will be ready to take Test #8.

Summary

In the indefinite form or citation form, the source transcription yields the following tones. (v stands for one vowel. Remember that two vowels do not necessarily require the pronunciation of vowel length.) Other tonal sequences will be discussed in due time.

Tonal Source Marks	Phonetic Tones
(v̀)	(_)
(v̀)v	(_ _)
(v̀)vv	(_ _ _)
v́	(‾)
v́v	(‾‾)
v́vv	(‾‾‾)
vv́	(_‾)
vv́v	(_‾‾)
vvv́	(_ _‾)
v̂	(╲)
v̂v	(‾ _)
v̂vv	(‾‾_) or (‾_ _) if third vowel belongs to a different form.
vv̂	(_╲)
vv̂v	(_‾_)
vvv̂	(_ _╲)
v̌	(‾)
vv̌	(_‾)
vvv̌	(_ _‾)

Review Tests

You are now ready for Tests 9, 10, and 11.

The Concept of 'Tonal Mapping'

In this course, as the student is by this time well aware, the marks over vowels do not indicate pitch directly. That is, (^) can mean (\\), a high falling tone but also (‾) a high tone and (_) a low tone, depending on the tones (both tonal source marks and phonetic tones) that surround the marks. When the tonal source marks are properly interpreted the resultant phonetic tones correspond to the lines on a road map that represent highways. The tonal source marks correspond to the points on the map that represent cities and the directional signs on the outskirts that point to the next city. The tonal source marks are not in themselves tones.

The first time anyone (who was not a Mende speaker) heard Mende, he heard only the phonetic tones, no marks. The tonal source marks as presented here are pure fiction. They serve to explain and predict the phonetic tones. As pointed out before, however, the learning of this type of marking can greatly simplify and speed up the learning of Mende.

Besides that particular types of tonal mapping illustrated above, there are also characteristic tonal interpretations occuring when words come together. One of these is (v̂v́). Whenever a word ending with v̂ precedes a word beginning with v́, the phonetic tone is (‾ ‾) (high-mid). What is (\\) in isolation becomes simply a high tone (‾) before a high (‾) and the second high (and the remainder of the word and sentence) is downstepped.

It is the same with(^) before a low (usually unmarked but occasionally the 'other half' of the (^) tone unit). The (^) is (‾) before the low that follows. (v̂v̀) is the same as (v́v̀); (‾ _). Occasionally, subsequent high tones are downstepped. These items will be explained further and illustrated as they arise in the lessons.

Exercises in the Tonal Marking System

Normally a series of vowels marked _́ is expected to yield a series of level high tones:

á á á á á

(a a a a a)

There are times, however, when vowels marked _́ in the tonal source transcription are downstepped from one another.

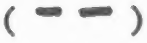
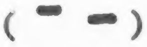
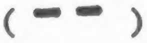
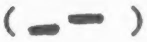
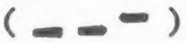
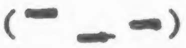
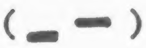
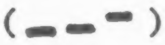
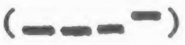
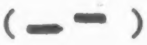
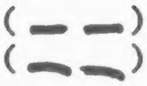
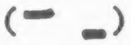
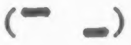
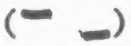
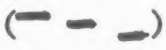
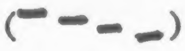
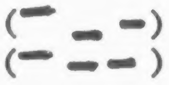
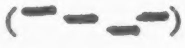
á á

(a a)

There are two sources of downstepped high tones.

1. (^ ´) as explained above,
2. (´ ` ´) a high followed by a low and then a second high.

Occasionally there is no vowel to carry a low tone between two high tones because the vowel would be omitted by a grammatical rule that leaves only the tonal source mark. In those cases, the tonal source mark is written without the vowel. There is a standard set of rules for interpreting the tonal mapping symbols as phonetic tone.

	Symbols	Pitch	Comments
1.	(´ ´)		In a series of high pitches pronounced in isolation some speakers may occasionally 'go flat' after initial high pitches. It is not low enough to be considered downstep and subsequent citations of the same word usually correct the word to high level.
2.	(^ ˇ)		
3.	(´ ˇ)		
4.	(` ˇ)		
5.	(` ˇ ´)		
6.	(^ ˇ ´)		
7.	(` ´ ) ( ` ` ´ ) ( ` ` ` ´)	  	A low or series of lows before a high is low level, not low, slightly falling. (see 9.b.)
8.	(ˇ ˇ)		
9.	(` `)	a. b. 	Words pronounced in isolation usually are low-falling (slightly), low-falling (slightly). In the utterances, Low-Low is the norm.
10.	(´ `)		Same as 11 and 12.
11.	(^ `)		
12.	(v̂ v)		
13.	(v̂ v v)		See 14. (see also p. 192)
14.	(v̂ v v v)		Distributes the 'fall' into 3 or 4 approximately equal steps.
15.	(^ ` ´)	a. b. 	High-Low-Mid <u>or</u> High-Mid-Mid
16.	(v̂ v v v́)		High-Mid-Low-Mid, often like 15.b.

17.	(ˋ ^)	(_＼)	Low-High falling. The high falling often starts higher than the high (ˊ).
18.	(^ ˊ)	(‾ −)	
19.	(ˊ ˋ ˊ)	(‾ _ −)	
20.	(ˇ ˋ)	(‾ _)	Same as 10, 11, and 12.
21.	(ˋ ˊ)	(_ −)	Low-Mid. Same as 22.
22.	(ˇ ˊ)	(_ −)	Same as 21.
23.	(ˋ ˇ ˋ)	(_ − _)	Low-Mid-Low(er).
24.	(ˊ ˇ ˋ)	(‾ ‾ _)	High-High-Low.
25.	(ˋ ˇ ˊ)	(_ _ −)	Low-Low-Mid.
26.	(ˋ ˊ ˋ)	(_ − _)	Low-Mid-Low(er)

There is no tape recorded for the following drills. The material has been presented in a staggered two column format so that the student may use the material for self-teaching by sliding an opaque card down the page. First the tonal source marks appear on the left; when the card is moved further down, the tone bars appear on the right. Abundant drills have been provided.

I. Hum or whistle the pitches which come from the following tonal source marks.

1. (^ ˋ)
(‾ _)

2. (ˊ ˊ)
(‾ ‾)

3. (ˊ ˋ)
(‾ _)

4. (ˋ ˊ)
(_ −)

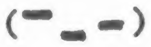
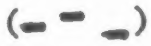
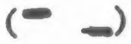
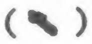
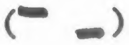
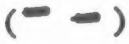
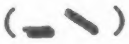
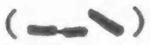
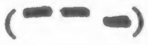
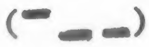
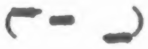
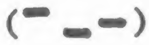
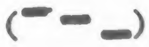
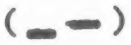
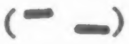
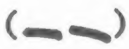
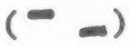
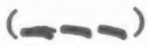
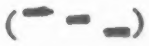
5. (ˋ ˋ)
(_ _)

6. (ˋ ˋ ˊ)
(_ _ −)

7. (^ ˊ)
(‾ −)

8. (ˊ ˊ ˊ)
(‾ ‾ ‾)

9.	(v̂ v)	(‾ _)
10.	(` ´)	(_ –)
11.	(v̂ v v)	(‾ – _)
12.	(` ´ `)	(– ‾ _)
13.	(^ `)	(‾ _)
14.	(^ ` ´)	(‾ _ –)
15.	(^ ´ ´)	(‾ – –)
16.	(´ ^)	(‾ ╲)
17.	(´ ^ ´)	(– ‾ –)
18.	(^ ´ ´)	(‾ – –)
19.	(´ ´ ´)	(‾ ‾ ‾)
20.	(` ` ´)	(_ _ –)
21.	(` ´)	(_ –)
22.	(` `)	(_ ╲)
23.	(` ` ´)	(_ _ ‾)
24.	(` ` `)	(_ _ ╲)
25.	(^ `)	(‾ _)
26.	(` ´)	(_ –)
27.	(v̂ v)	(‾ _)

28.	(^ ` ´)	
29.	(` ´ `)	
30.	(^ `)	
31.	(^)	
32.	(^ `)	
33.	(^ ´)	
34.	(` ^)	
35.	(` ` ^)	
36.	(´ ^ ´)	
37.	(^ ` `)	
38.	(^ ´ `)	
39.	(^ ` ´)	
40.	(v̂ v v)	
41.	(` ´)	
42.	(^ `)	
43.	(` `)	
44.	(´ `)	
45.	(` ` `)	
46.	(v̂ v v)	

47. (ˋ ˋ)

(– –)

48. (ˋ ˋ ˊ)

(_ _ –)

49. (ˊ ˊ ˊ)

(¯ ¯ ¯)

50. (ˆ ˊ ˊ)

(¯ – –)

51. (ˋ ˊ ˋ)

(– ¯ _)

52. (ˊ ˋ ˊ)

(¯ _ –)

53. (ˊ ˋ ˋ ˊ)

(¯ _ _ –)

54. (ˊ ˊ ˋ ˊ)

(¯ ¯ _ –)

55. (ˋ ˊ ˋ ˊ)

(– ¯ _ –)

56. (ˋ ˋ ˊ)

(_ _ ¯)

57. (ˋ ˋ ˆ)

(_ _ \)

58. (ˋ ˋ ˆ ˊ)

(_ _ ¯ –)

59. (ˆ ˋ ˋ ˊ)

(¯ _ _ –)

60. (ˆ ˊ ˋ ˊ)

(¯ – _ –)

II. The pitch of polarized vowels is determined from right to left. If the polarized vowel (marked ˇ̲) precedes nothing, the vowel has a high pitch. Subsequent polarized vowels determine tone from the phonetic pitch of the item that follows. E.g. (ˇ ˇ) gives the pitches (_ ¯).

Hum or whistle the following.

1. (ˇ)

(¯)

2. (ˇ ˋ)

(¯ _)

3. (ˇ ˊ) (_ -)

4. (ˋ ˇ) (_ -)

5. (ˊ ˇ) (‾ ‾)

6. (ˇ ˆ) (_ ╲)

7. (ˆ ˇ) (‾ -)

8. (ˋ ˇ ˋ) (_ ‾ _)

9. (ˊ ˇ ˊ) (‾ _ -)

10. (ˊ ˇ ˋ) (‾ ‾ _)

11. (ˇ ˋ ˆ) (‾ _ ╲)

12. (ˇ ˊ ˆ) (_ ‾ ╲)

13. (ˆ ˋ ˇ) (‾ _ -)

14. (ˆ ˊ ˇ) (‾ - -)

15. (ˊ ˆ ˇ) (‾ ‾ -)

16. (ˋ ˆ ˇ) (_ ‾ -)

17. (ˊ ˇ ˆ) (‾ _ ╲)

18. (ˋ ˇ ˆ) (_ _ ╲)

19. (ˇ ˇ) (_ ‾)

20. (ˇ ˋ ˇ) (‾ _ -)

21. (ˇ ˊ ˇ) (_ ‾ ‾)

22. (ˇ ˇ ˇ)

23. (ˇ ^ ˇ)

24. (^ ˇ ^)

25. (^ ´ ^)

26. (ˇ ´ ˇ)

27. (ˇ)

28. (^ ` ˇ)

29. (ˇ ˇ)

30. (ˇ `)

31. (^ ˇ)

32. (^ ´ ˇ)

33. (` ˇ)

34. (´ ˇ)

35. (´ ^ ˇ)

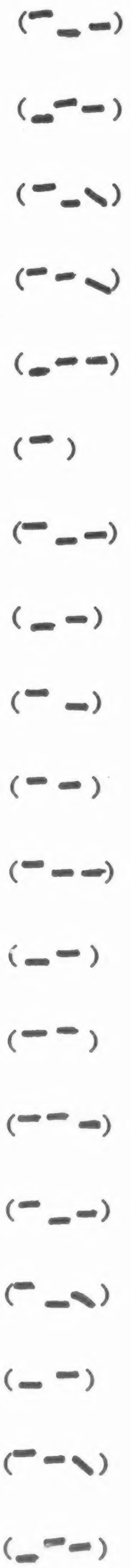
36. (ˇ ˇ ˇ)

37. (^ ˇ ^)

38. (ˇ ´)

39. (^ ´ ^)

40. (` ^ ˇ)



41. (^ ´ ˇ)

(¯ - -)

42. (ˇ ^)

(- \)

43. (` ˇ ` ˇ)

(-¯ _-)

44. (´ ˇ ^)

(¯ - \)

45. (´ ˇ `)

(¯¯ _)

46. (ˇ ` ˇ)

(¯ _ -)

47. (^ ˇ)

(¯ -)

48. (ˇ ´ ˇ)

(_¯ -)

49. (^ ^ ˇ)

(¯- -)

50. (` ˇ `)

(-¯ _)

51. (ˇ ˇ ^)

(¯ _ \)

52. (` ˇ ^)

(- - \)

53. (` ˇ ^ `)

(- -¯ _)

54. (´ ˇ ´)

(¯ _ -)

55. (ˇ ^)

(_ \)

56. (ˇ)

(¯)

57. (ˇ ` ^)

(¯ _\)

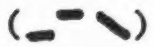
58. (ˇ ˇ)

(_¯)

59. (` ˇ `)

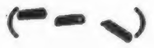
(-¯ _)

60. (ˇ ´ ^)

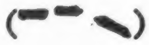


III. Hum or whistle the following tones.

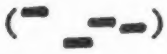
1. (^ ^ ^)



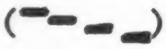
2. (´ ^ ^)



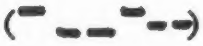
3. (ˇ ˇ ^ ˇ)



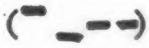
4. (^ ^ ^ ´)



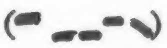
5. (^ ` ˇ ^ ´ ˇ)



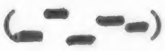
6. (^ ` ´ ´)



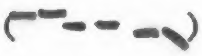
7. (´ ` ` ´ ^)



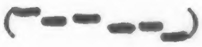
8. (` ˇ ` ^ ´)



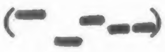
9. (´ ^ ´ ^ ´ ^)



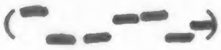
10. (^ ´ ^ ´ ^ ´)



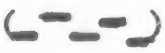
11. (^ ˇ ^ ´ ´)



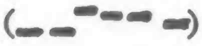
12. (^ ` ˇ ´ ^ ` ˇ)



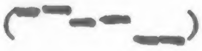
13. (` ´ ` ^ `)



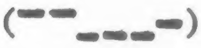
14. (` ` ^ ´ ^ ´)



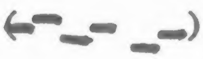
15. (´ ^ ´ ^ ` `)



16. (´ ´ ` ` ˇ ˇ)



17. (ˇ ´ ˇ ´ ˇ ´)



18. (^ ` ` ^ ´ `)
(‾__‾-_)

19. (^ ´ ´ ˇ ˇ `)
(‾--_-_)

20. (` ` ^ ´ ^ ` ` ´)
(__‾--__)

21. (´ ^ ´ ´ ´)
(‾‾---)

22. (´ ^ ´ ` ´ ´ `)
(‾‾-_--_)

23. (` ˇ ^ ´ ´ ^ `)
(__‾---_)

24. (^ ` ` ´ ^ ´ ` ´)
(‾__‾‾-_-)

25. (´ ` ` ´ ´ ´ ` ´)
(‾__‾‾-_-)

26. (´ ˇ ´ ´ ˇ `)
(‾_--_)

27. (` ˇ ´ ˇ ˇ ^)
(__‾‾-v)

28. (^ ` ˇ ^ ´ ˇ)
(‾__‾--)

29. (ˇ ´ ^ ˇ ` ^)
(-‾‾-_v)

30. (ˇ ˇ ` ˇ ^)
(-‾__v)

31. (´ ^ ˇ ` ˇ ^)
(‾‾-__v)

32. (^ ` ˇ ˇ ˇ ^ `)
(‾__‾_-_)

33. (^ ´ ˇ ` ^ ˇ)
(‾-- _‾-)

34. (` ˇ ` ˇ ^ ´)
(_‾__‾)

35. (´ ´ ´ ^ ´ ´ `)
(‾‾‾‾-- _)

36. (^ ` ^ ` ˇ ´ ´ `)
(‾_‾ __‾‾_)

37. (` ´ ´ ^ ` ´ ˇ ´)
(_¯¯¯_¯_¯)

38. (` ^ ^ ` ´ ˇ ´)
(_¯¯_¯_¯)

39. (ˇ ` ´ ´ ^ ´)
(¯_¯¯¯-)

40. (´ ˇ ´ ´ ` ` ´)
(¯_¯¯__¯)

If the above drill on the Tonal Marking System is mastered, you are ready for Tests 8 through 12.

A Special Note

When a two syllable word extends its tone to a suffix and the word in question has the tones (¯_), the suffix gets a low tone, e.g. <u>kâl.i</u>, <u>nga</u> becomes <u>kâl.iya</u>, (¯__) and not (¯¯_). The tones in numbers 13 and 14 on page 182 do not apply to cases like <u>kâl.iya</u>.

CHAPTER THREE

THE DEFINITE FORM

When .í is added to nouns in Mende the noun is said to be in the definite form and .í is the definite marker. Without the definite marker, nouns are in the indefinite form. This is the traditional terminology. The actual meanings of the words in the definite and indefinite forms are not exactly parallel to the English a and the. After you have learned to form the definite, its meaning will be explained.

Tonal Changes

When a vowel marked (´) directly follows a vowel marked (^) (e.g. sâ.á) the tone is (¯-) high-mid, not (\¯). This is an important rule and one of wide application. If an unmarked vowel falls between vowels marked (^) and (´) the tone is either (¯--) or (¯_-) (e.g. kɔɔ̂nga.á (/--) or (/_-).

Definite Forms With .v́

Besides a definite form marker (.í) there are a number of nouns that form the definite form with .v́ which becomes the same as the vowel that precedes it on a high tone. In general, it must be learned which nouns make definite forms with .v́. Nouns having the form $CV\begin{Bmatrix}w.\\l.\end{Bmatrix}V$ take .v́ when the medial l or w is omitted. Thus:

fál.a	bamboo	fá.a.á *	(- - -)
kal.ǎ	fish, trap	ka.ǎ.á	(_ _ -)
fáw.a	ledge	fá.a.á	(¯ ¯ -)
kual.ǎ	monkey	kua.ǎ.á	(_ _ -)
kpál.a	upper leg	kpá.a.á	(- - -)
lal.a	oar	la.a.á	(_ _ ¯)
ndáw.a	leaf	ndá.a.á	(- - -)
ngál.a	mat	ngá.a.á	(- - -)
njal.ǎ	lion, indigo	nja.ǎ.á	(_ _ -)
taw.ǎ	tobacco	ta.ǎ.á	(_ _ -)
bubá	tunic	bubá.á	(_ - -)

---

*Remember that two identical vowels indicate length when a period intervenes.

If however, the definite form is made while the l or w is still in the word the definite is formed in the usual manner with .í.

Other words making definite forms with .v́ (these usually end in a):

piw.ikpâ	porcupine	piw.ikpâ.á	(_ _ ¯ -)
suɛ́-juɛ	June	suɛ́-juɛ.ɛ́	(_¯ ¯ _-)*
bâ	price	bâ.á	(¯ -)
sâ	September	sâ.á	(¯-)
kaŋá	box	kaŋá.á	(_¯¯)
kpa.ǎ	farm	kpa.ǎ.á	(_ _ ¯)
mbondâ	family	mbondâ.á	(_¯-)
kpaâ	shrimp	kpaâ.á	(_¯-)
nɛ́.ɛ	tongue	nɛ́.ɛ.ɛ́	(---)
kɛ́l.ɛ	fraction (liquids)	kɛ́l.ɛ.ɛ́	(---)
kɔɔ̂nga	crowd of men	kɔɔ̂nga.á	(_¯--) †
nyawɛ̂	March	nyawɛ̂.ɛ́	(_¯-)
pɛ́gba	January	pɛ́gba.á	(---)
mbaâ	companion	mbaâ.á	(_¯ -)
mɔmɔnyâ	banana	mɔmɔnyâ.á	(__ ¯ -)
sibâ	onion	sibâ.á	(_¯-)

Practice making the definite form with these nouns. The definite is made with .v́. The teacher will read the indefinite form, you should respond by making it definite, then the teacher will read the correct form. Pay attention to the tonal changes.

1.	pɛ́gba	pɛ́gba.á
2.	sâ	sâ.á
3.	ta.ǎ	ta.ǎ.á
4.	kaŋá	kaŋá.á
5.	nyawɛ̂	nyawɛ̂.ɛ́

---

* also (-¯¯ _ -)

† also (-¯_ -)

6.	ndêw.é	ndêw.é.é
7.	fá.a	fá.a.á
8.	ndá.a	ndá.a.á
9.	kua.ǎ	kua.ǎ.á
10.	mbondâ	mbondâ.á
11.	bubá	bubá.á
12.	ngá.a	ngá.a.á
13.	kpá.a	kpá.a.á
14.	kpaâ	kpaâ.á
15.	nɛ́.ɛ	nɛ́.ɛ.ɛ́
16.	kɛ́.ɛ	kɛ́.ɛ.ɛ́
17.	sâ	sâ.á
18.	piw.ikpâ	piw.ikpâ.á
19.	suɛ́-juɛ	suɛ́-juɛ.ɛ́
20.	mbaâ	mbaâ.á
21.	ndê.é	ndê.é.é
22.	ngá.a	ngá.a.á
23.	bubá	bubá.á
24.	kua.ǎ	kua.ǎ.á
25.	pi.ikpâ	pi.ikpâ.á
26.	kɛ́.ɛ	kɛ́.ɛ.ɛ́
27.	nja.ǎ	nja.ǎ.á
28.	la.a	la.a.á
29.	kpá.a	kpá.a.á
30.	mbondâ	mbondâ.á

Try Test #13 now.

Stem Vowel Change in the Definite Form

In addition to the words taking .v́ as a definite marker there are a few words that are simply irregular.

1.	ndɔ.ɔ̂ (ndɔɔ́l.ɔ̂)	ndɔ.ɛ̂.ɛ́	earth
2.	pɔ́.ɔ	pɔ́.ɛ	porro society
3.	lɔ̂lu	lɔ́lu.í	fifth
	(and other ordinal numerals)		

A set of loan words simply adds .í without the vowel change described below.

4.	fɔtó	fɔtó.í	photo
5.	mângo	mângo.í	mango
6.	mɔtó	mɔtó.í	car, lorry
7.	sâlo	sâlo.í	orange

Other words do not undergo the vowel changes described below for reasons that are not immediately apparent.

8.	mbalǔ	mbalǔ.í	cane
9.	tálu	tálu.í	ninth
10.	petû	petû.í	locust
11.	tutú	tutú.í	go-between
12.	ndú	ndú.í	flesh
13.	galó	galó.í	October
14.	gbókito	gbókito.í	sandals
15.	kalǒ	kalǒ.í	basin
16.	kpató	kpató.í	machete
17.	kpâw.o	kpâw.o.í	yelling
18.	kpaw.ǒ	kpaw.ǒ.í	spinster
19.	kpów.o	kpów.o.í	ankle
20.	ngów.o	ngów.o.í	hip
21.	njow.ǒ	njow.ǒ.í	potato
22.	tôl.o	tôl.o.í	sleeveless shirt
23.	tól.o	tól.o.í	leech
24.	tɔtɔ̌	tɔtɔ̌.í	sorcery
25.	nɔtɔ	nɔtɔ.í	mussel

26.	nɔ́nɔ	nɔ́nɔ.í	milk
27.	ngewɔ̂ɔ	ngewɔ̂ɔ.í	God
28.	gbɔngbɔtɔ̂	gbɔngbɔtɔ̂.í	citrus
29.	kpɔ́yɔ	kpɔ́yɔ.i	cowrie shell
30.	nanɔ	nanɔ.í	July
31.	ndɔ́ndɔ	ndɔ́ndɔ.í	millipede

It is very likely that this list could be expanded for some Mende-speaking regions and shortened for others. It is also likely that your teacher disagrees with the list. If so, do it his way. Otherwise trust the list.* Learn the list now and you will be drilled on it later.

Regular Vowel Changes l, n, nd, t, y, w

The student should memorize this short list of six consonants. In words ending in an ɔ, o, u that is preceded by l, n, nd, t, y, w, the vowels (ɔ o u) change to (ɛ e i) respectively.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{l} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{nd} \\ \text{t} \\ \text{y} \\ \text{w} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{before} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \text{ɔ} \\ \text{o} \\ \text{u} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{becomes} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \text{l} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{nd} \\ \text{t} \\ \text{y} \\ \text{w} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{before} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \text{ɛ} \\ \text{e} \\ \text{i} \end{bmatrix}$$

In addition, a becomes ɛ (except those words described before that must take .v́ as the definite marker).

Where there are double vowels with no period (indicating length) between them, both vowels change, e.g. mbaǎ > mbɛɛ̌.í 'rice'. Where there is a period in between the vowels indicating that a consonant has been deleted and if the vowels are identical (e.g. a.a), the form takes the definite marker .v́ and no change is made in the two vowels. (e.g. fáw.a becomes fá.a, becomes fá.a.á). When the consonant is not deleted (as in fáw.a) the regular vowel changes do occur (e.g. fáw.a becomes fáw.ɛ.í 'ledge').

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*I am well aware that all speakers of Mende do not maintain the same inventory of 'regular' and 'irregular' vowel assimilations. Very brief surveys of informants confirm this. There are three things that are very important for a student of Mende to recognize at this point. First, that the categories of regular and irregular vowel assimilation are a necessary part of a description of Mende even though the content of the categories may vary for geographical, social or other reasons. Second, the particular content of the categories expressed in this chapter (and in the Lexicon) are not intended to be considered norms of social usage or even the most frequently used forms. They are the forms used by at least one native speaker of Mende and they are understood by other speakers of Mende and therefore part of the Mende system. Third, whereas differences in the Mende of speaker A and speaker B reveal all sorts of regional, social, age, and other information to speakers A and B, these same variations might be construed as errors in the speech of foreigners.

The vowel changes can also be depicted thus:

i ← u
e ← o
ɛ ← ɔ
↖
a

You will find this diagram a help in learning what happens in the vowel changes but the goal you are seeking -- a more or less automatic facility with tonal and vowel changes -- is far more likely to be reached through the mastering of the following drills.

Drills: Putting Nouns into the Definite Form

The teacher will read the indefinite nouns, the student will say the definite form with the proper tonal pattern. (The first five drills deal only with tonal combination; there are no vowel assimilation changes.) After the students have made each noun definite, the teacher should say the correct form for them to repeat. It is expected that the teacher will break up each drill into smaller parts, skipping around on the list, hitting difficult words often. This also will serve to discourage the students from following the work in the book.

Tonal Combination

I. Make the following nouns definite.

(▁▔) + (▔) > (▁▁▔)

1.	pel.ě	(▁▔)	pel.ě.í	(▁▁▔)	road
2.	fandě	(▁▔)	fandě.í	(▁▁▔)	cotton
3.	fel.ě	(▁▔)	fel.ě.í	(▁▁▔)	trade
4.	fɛɛ̌		fɛɛ̌.í		pot
5.	fɛfɛ̌		fɛfɛ̌.í		wind
6.	fol.ě		fol.ě.í		whistle
7.	ŋɔnǐ		ŋɔnǐ.í		bird
8.	hagbě		hagbě.í		rabbit
9.	han.ǐ		han.ǐ.í		thing
10.	hapě		hapě.í		root
11.	hitɛ̌		hitɛ̌.í		flying ant

12.	kal.ǐ	kal.ǐ.í	snake
13.	ketě	ketě.í	guinea corn
14.	kɔlǐ	kɔlǐ.í	iron
15.	kpɛl.ɛ̌	kpɛl.ɛ̌.í	beard
16.	kpitǐ	kpitǐ.í	grass
17.	kpolǐ	kpolǐ.í	worm
18.	mbembě	mbembě.í	fishing net
19.	mbekě	mbekě.í	branch
20.	mbɛtɛ̌	mbɛtɛ̌.í	watch tower
21.	ndapǐ	ndapǐ.i	fight
22.	ndol.ǐ	ndol.ǐ.í	dance
23.	ndɔl.ɛ̌	ndɔl.ɛ̌.í	hunger
24.	ngel.ě	ngel.ě.í	sky
25.	ngengě	ngengě.í	work
26.	ngol.ě	ngol.ě.í	song
27.	ngukpě	ngukpě.í	stump
28.	njɛpɛ̌	njɛpɛ̌.í	talk
29.	nyangbě	nyangbě.í	fox
30.	ŋɔnǐ	ŋɔnǐ.í	bird
31.	pal.ǐ	pal.ǐ.í	pool
32.	patǐ	patǐ.í	stew
33.	pel.ě	pel.ě.í	road
34.	sal.ǐ	sal.ǐ.í	meddling

II. Make the following nouns definite.

(¯¯) + (¯) > (¯¯¯)

1.	dígbe (¯¯)	dígbe.í (¯¯¯)	heel
2.	fáji (¯¯)	fáji.í (¯¯¯)	bucket
3.	fále (¯¯)	fále.í (¯¯¯)	mushroom, sprout

4.	féngbɛ	féngbɛ.í	satin
5.	kpéngi	kpéngi.í	sediment
6.	gél.e	gél.e.í	falcon
7.	hál.e	hál.e.í	medicine
8.	hámi	hámi.í	desire
9.	hél.e	hél.e.í	elephant
10.	híkpɛ	híkpɛ.í	groan
11.	híw.i	híw.i.í	ant hill
12.	káni	káni.í	metal
13.	kél.e	kél.e.í	drum
14.	kɛ́nyɛ	kɛ́nyɛ.í	nation
15.	kíti	kíti.í	dilemma
16.	ndí	ndí.í	heart
17.	kóni	kóni.í	ax
18.	kɔ́l.i	kɔ́l.i.í	leopard
19.	kɔ́mi	kɔ́mi.í	honey, bee
20.	kpél.e	kpél.e.í	growl
21.	kpíndi	kpíndi.í	darkness
22.	kpól.i	kpól.i.í	river bend
23.	kpúnyɛ	kpúnyɛ.í	charcoal
24.	kúgbe	kúgbe.í	rice farmers
25.	lále	lále.í	seed (species)
26.	lási	lási.í	type
27.	mbále	mbále.í	climbing loop
28.	mɔ́nɛ	mɔ́nɛ.í	trouble
29.	ndí	ndí.í	heart
30.	ndíle	ndíle.í	python
31.	ndól.i	ndól.i.í	hook

32.	nɛ́si	nɛ́si.í	potion
33.	ngél.e	ngél.e.í	ulcer
34.	wáti	wáti.í	time
35.	ngíye	ngíye.í	hill
36.	ngól.i	ngól.i.í	tail, ear
37.	ngɔ́mbi	ngɔ́mbi.í	knee
38.	njé	njé.í	goat
39.	nyíni	nyíni.í	breast
40.	pɛ́l.ɛ	pɛ́l.ɛ.í	house
41.	sál.e	sál.e.í	parable
42.	sɛ́mɛ	sɛ́mɛ.í	chief's court (barre)
43.	sɔ́li	sɔ́li.í	spear

III. Review: .v́ Forms

Make the following nouns definite.

1.	bâ	bâ.á	value
2.	fá.a	fá.a.á	bamboo
3.	fá.a	fá.a.á	rock ledge
4.	ka.ǎ	ka.ǎ.á	fish trap
5.	ndá.a	ndá.a.á	leaf
6.	nja.ǎ	nja.ǎ.á	lion
7.	bubá	bubá.á	tunic

IV. Make the following nouns definite.

(▁▁) + (▔) > (▁▁▔)

1.	bɛlɛ	(▁▁)	bɛlɛ.í	(▁▁▔)	trousers
2.	gboji	(▁▁)	gboji.í	(▁▁▔)	plum
3.	jɛmɛtɛ	(▁▁▁)	jɛmɛtɛ.í	(▁▁▁▔)	stimulus
4.	kpakal.i		kpakal.i.í		tripod chair
5.	kpɛgbɛ		kpɛgbɛ.í		comb

6.	lɛw.ɛ	lɛw.ɛ.í	dough
7.	mɛmɛ	mɛmɛ.í	mirror
8.	mini	mini.í	bead
9.	nɛnɛ	nɛnɛ.í	shadow
10.	pujɛ	pujɛ.í	pepper
11.	sani	sani.í	bottle

V. Make the following nouns definite.

(_\) + (¯) > (_¯‾)

(\) + (¯) > (¯_)

1.	fɛlɛ̂ (_\)	fɛlɛ̂.í (_¯_)	shield
2.	fol.ê (_\)	fol.ê.í (_¯_)	whistle
3.	fɔnî (_\)	fɔnî.í (_¯_)	pinch
4.	gil.î	gil.î.í	white ant
5.	hinî	hinî.í	husband
6.	hɔndî	hɔndî.í	greens
7.	jiw.î	jiw.î.í	key
8.	kî	kî.í	chess
9.	kɔndî	kɔndî.í	snore
10.	kpakî	kpakî.í	shoulder
11.	kpambî	kpambî.í	line
12.	kpandɛ̂	kpandɛ̂.í	gun
13.	kpatɛ̂	kpatɛ̂.í	wealth
14.	kpɛnî	kpɛnî.í	lizard
15.	kponyɛ̂	kponyɛ̂.í	grumble
16.	lumbê	lumbê.i	orange
17.	makɛ̂	makɛ̂.í	manners
18.	mbimbî	mbimbî.í	dirt pile
19.	mɔl.î	mɔl.î.í	question

20.	ndahɛ̂	ndahɛ̂.í	promise
21.	ndil.î	ndil.î.í	fly
22.	ngal.î	ngal.î.í	thorn
23.	ngetê	ngetê.í	pestle
24.	nɔmɔlî	nɔmɔlî.í	soapstone carving
25.	pindɛ̂	pindɛ̂.í	jump
26.	pundî	pundî.í	mosquito
27.	sî	sî.í	top (spinning)
28.	tɛnɛ̂	tɛnɛ̂.í	Monday
29.	tî	tî.í	island
30.	tɔhɛ̂	tɔhɛ̂.í	cough
31.	vivî	vivî.í	storm

When the preceding drills are mastered Tests 14, 15 and 16 should be taken.

Noun Stem Vowel Changes

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{l} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{nd} \\ \text{t} \\ \text{y} \\ \text{w} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{(o)} \quad + \quad \text{(.í)} \quad > \begin{bmatrix} \text{l} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{nd} \\ \text{t} \\ \text{y} \\ \text{w} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{(e.í)}$$

The teacher will read the indefinite nouns, the student will say the definite form, performing the vowel change and any tonal changes. The teacher should then say the correct form for the students to repeat. The drill should be practiced repeatedly until it is mastered. The teacher will vary the order of the words occasionally.

I. Make the following nouns definite.

1.	fól.o	fól.e.í	sun
2.	gôlo	gôle.í	May
3.	kol.ô	kol.ê.í	driver ant
4.	kol.ǒ	kol.ě.í	ember
5.	kpol.ǒ	kpol.ě.í *	salt

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*also kpol.ǒ.í

6.	mból.o	mból.e.í	neck
7.	ngolǒ	ngolě.í	chimpanzee
8.	folô	folê.í	whistle
9.	toôlo	toôle.í	kola nut

II. Make the following nouns definite.

$$\begin{bmatrix} l \\ n \\ nd \\ t \\ y \\ w \end{bmatrix} (\text{ɔ}) + (.\text{ì}) > \begin{bmatrix} l \\ n \\ nd \\ t \\ y \\ w \end{bmatrix} (\text{ɛ.í})$$

Remember (wɔ + .í) > (wɔ.í) or (wɛ.í).

1.	bɔndɔ́	bɔndɛ́.í	okra
2.	bɔlɔ	bɔlɛ.í	hat
3.	fɔ́ndɔ	fɔ́ndɛ.í	sweat
4.	gɔɔ̂tɔ	gɔɔ̂tɛ.í	rope
5.	hɔwɔ̌	hɔwɛ̌.í	a ceremony
6.	tɔ́w.ɔ	tɔ́w.ɛ.í	fame
7.	kɔl.ɔ̌	kɔl.ɛ̌.í	book
8.	kɔl.ɔ̂	kɔl.ɛ̂.í	skin
9.	kɔ́ndɔ	kɔ́ndɛ.í	noon meal
10.	kɔwɔ	kɔwɛ.í	log
11.	kɔ́w.ɔ	kɔ́w.ɛ.í	foot
12.	kpawɔ̌	kpawɛ̌.í	forked stick
13.	kpɔnɔ	kpɔnɛ.í	brain
14.	kpɔtɔ	kpɔtɛ.í	oil froth
15.	bɔndɔ́	bɔndɛ́.í	okra
16.	kpûl.ɔ	kpûl.ɛ.í	woodpecker
17.	lɔ́w.ɔ	lɔ́w.ɛ.í	day
18.	ndɔɔ́l.ɔ̂	ndɔɔ́l.ɛ̂.í	world

19.	nduwɔ̌	nduwɛ̌.í	slave
20.	ngú.lɔ	ngú.lɛ.í	oil
21.	pɔ̂l.ɔ	pɔ̂l.ɛ.í	mud
22.	tɔnɔ	tɔnɛ.í	fall guy
23.	tɔw.ɔ	tɔw.ɛ.í	bean

III. Make the following nouns definite.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{l} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{nd} \\ \text{t} \\ \text{y} \\ \text{w} \end{bmatrix} \text{(u)} + \text{(.í)} > \begin{bmatrix} \text{l} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{nd} \\ \text{t} \\ \text{y} \\ \text{w} \end{bmatrix} \text{(i.í)}$$

1.	búl.u	búl.i.í	trumpet
2.	búw.u	búw.i.í	April
3.	daw.ú	daw.í.í	August
4.	dɔ̂w.u	dɔ̂w.i.í	duck
5.	fúl.u	fúl.i.í	living creature
6.	kakâw.u	kakâw.i.í	cacao
7.	kónu	kóni.í	ax
8.	kɔtǔ	kɔtǐ.í	stone
9.	kpáw.u	kpáw.i.í	bridge
10.	kpu.lû	kpu.lî.í	nook
11.	mɔnǔ	mɔnǐ.í	surplus
12.	mɔɔ̂tu	mɔɔ̂ti.í	cleared farm
13.	ndulǔ	ndulǐ.í	smoke
14.	ngáwu	ngáwi.í	egg
15.	ngúl.u	ngúl.i.í	wood
16.	ngulû	ngulî.í	cobra
17.	tów.u	tów.i.í	palm kernel
18.	tɔl.û	tɔl.î.í	palm nut

Tests 17, 18 and 19 should be taken now.

IV. Make the following nouns definite.

(a) + (í) > (ɛ.í)

Two syllable nouns that delete (l, w) assimilate the same way as other nouns ending in (a); e.g. (a) > (ɛ).

1.	bafa	bafɛ.í	hut
2.	ba.lâ	ba.lɛ̂.í	basket
3.	bál.a	bál.ɛ.í	lower jaw
4.	bɛngulâ	bɛngulɛ̂.í	cemetery
5.	bônga	bôngɛ.í	(species) fish
6.	dágba	dágbɛ.í	banana heart
7.	fáha	fáhɛ.í	crowd
8.	fakâ	fakɛ̂.í	porch
9.	fál.a	fál.ɛ.í	bamboo
10.	fasâ	fasɛ̂.í	lobster
11.	fáw.a	fáw.ɛ.í	boulder
12.	fêlama	fêlamɛ.í	junction
13.	fogbâ	fogbɛ̂.í	whip
14.	fóma	fómɛ.í	cane
15.	fula	fulɛ.í	village
16.	fu.lâ	fu.lɛ̂.í	twins
17.	gbahá	gbahɛ́.í	bridge
18.	gbama	gbamɛ.í	red bream (species, fish)
19.	gbanyâ	gbanyɛ̂.í	pliers
20.	gboyâ	gboyɛ̂.í	sea
21.	fál.a	fál.ɛ.í	bamboo
22.	gɔmá	gɔmɛ́.í	minister bird
23.	gɔɔ̂ta	gɔɔ̂tɛ.í	gutter
24.	guavá	guavɛ́.í	guava

25.	haâka	haâkɛ.í	burden
26.	mbaǎ	mbɛɛ̌.í	rice
27.	háka	hákɛ.í	ladder
28.	hákpa	hákpɛ.í	soup
29.	hal.a	hal.ɛ.í	first
30.	háw.ama	háw.amɛ.í	waistline
31.	hindâ	hindɛ̂.í	business
32.	hókpa	hókpɛ.í	nostril
33.	hóta	hótɛ.í	guest
34.	hɔ́na	hɔ́nɛ.í	witchcraft
35.	jagba	jagbɛ.í	basin
36.	jambá	jambɛ́.í	hemp
37.	jáya	jáyɛ.í	firewood
38.	jiká	jikɛ́.í	chigger
39.	jûma	jûmɛ.í	Friday
40.	káha	káhɛ.í	load
41.	kal.ǎ	kal.ɛ̌.í	fish trap
42.	kál.a	kál.ɛ.í	bone
43.	káma	kámɛ.í	porro bush
44.	kámba	kámbɛ.í	grave
45.	kanyâma	kanyâmɛ.í	window
46.	katǎ	katɛ̌.í	catfish
47.	káta	kátɛ.í	compound
48.	kayêma	kayêmɛ.í	holy place
49.	kékema	kékemɛ.í	scorpion
50.	kêna	kênɛ.í	man
51.	kênya	kênyɛ.í	uncle
52.	kondâ	kondɛ̂.í	mortar

53.	kɔngâ	kɔngɛ̂.í	occiput
54.	kpa	kpɛ.í	debt
55.	kpál.a	kpál.ɛ.í	lap
56.	kpáma	kpámɛ.í	suspenders
57.	ngál.a	ngál.ɛ.í	mat
58.	kpáva	kpávɛ.í	pocket
59.	kpayǎ	kpayɛ̌.í	head tie
60.	kpekâ	kpekɛ̂.í	razor
61.	kpénda	kpéndɛ.í	worm
62.	kpɔmba	kpɔmbɛ.í	hostage
63.	kpuâ	kpuɛ̂.í	farm house
64.	kpuhǎ	kpuhɛ̌.í	body build
65.	kual.ǎ	kual.ɛ̌.í	monkey
66.	kúgba	kúgbɛ.í	warrior
67.	kulǎ	kulɛ̌.í	cloth
68.	lal.a	lal.ɛ.í	paddle
69.	lanya	lanyɛ.í	wrist band
70.	lel.emá	lel.emɛ́.í	praying mantis
71.	lɔntima	lɔntimɛ.í	screw, nail
72.	lûba	lûbɛ.í	blessing
73.	maâna	maânɛ.í	banana
74.	mahǎ	mahɛ̌.í	chief
75.	mal.êka	mal.êkɛ.í	angel
76.	mandǎ	mandɛ̌.í	benni seed
77.	mawá	mawɛ́.í	palm tree
78.	mbaǎ	mbɛɛ̌.í	rice
79.	nyahâ	nyahɛ̂.í	wife
80.	mbakǎ	mbakɛ̌.í	accordian

81.	mbalǎ	mbalɛ̌.í	sheep
82.	mbawâ	mbawɛ̂.í	soap
83.	mbogbá	mbogbɛ́.í	machete
84.	mbomǎ	mbomɛ̌.í	hammock
85.	mbówa	mbówɛ.í	knife
86.	mboyâ	mboyɛ̂.í	broth
87.	mitǎ	mitɛ̌.í	spoon
88.	taw.ǎ	taw.ɛ̌.í	tobacco
89.	nafâ	nafɛ̂.í	profit
90.	ndá	ndɛ́.í	mouth
91.	nda	ndɛ.í	own
92.	ndaâya	ndaâyɛ.í	spittle
93.	ndakâ	ndakɛ̂.í	buddy
94.	ndámba	ndámbɛ.í	crocodile
95.	ndatǎ	ndatɛ̌.í	vein
96.	ndavúla	ndavúlɛ.í	sling
97.	ndáw.a	ndáw.ɛ.í	leaf
98.	ndikpǎ	ndikpɛ̌.í	arrow
99.	ndomǎ	ndomɛ̌.í	shirt
100.	ndónda	ndóndɛ.í	pig
101.	ndów.a	ndów.ɛ.í	hole
102.	ndúw.a	ndúwɛ.í	fear
103.	ndáw.a	ndáw.ɛ.í	leaf
104.	nɛ́ma	nɛ́mɛ.í	luck
105.	ngá	ngɛ́.í	point
106.	ngafâ	ngafɛ̂.í	devil
107.	ngál.a	ngál.ɛ.í	mat
108.	ngâma	ngâmɛ.í	face
109.	ngayâ	ngayɛ̂.í	tears

110.	ngeênda	ngeêndɛ.í	morning
111.	ngêya	ngêyɛ.í	palm of hand
112.	ngî.la	ngî.lɛ.í	dog
113.	ngolâ	ngolɛ̂.í	forest
114.	nikǎ	nikɛ̌.í	cow
115.	njaǎ	njɛɛ̌.í	water
116.	njal.ǎ	njal.ɛ̌.í	lion
117.	njasǎ	njasɛ̌.í	palm frond
118.	nyahâ	nyahɛ̂.í	wife
119.	nyína	nyínɛ.í	rat
120.	ηamǎ	ηamɛ̌.í	blood
121.	ηanyǎ	ηanyɛ̌.í	sand
122.	pâl.a	pâl.ɛ.í	parlor
123.	pámba	pámbɛ.í	vine
124.	patá	patɛ́.í	mud
125.	píya	píyɛ.í	fish basket
126.	pîa	pîɛ.í	avocado
127.	pôoma	pôomɛ.í	back
128.	sámba	sámbɛ.í	basket
129.	sambâ	sambɛ̂.í	gift
130.	sángba	sángbɛ.í	musical instruments
131.	sawa	sawɛ.í	law
132.	sêka	sêkɛ.í	chigger
133.	sema	semɛ.í	bamboo
134.	sibâ	sibɛ̂.í	onion
135.	taǎ	tɛɛ̌.í	town
136.	tangǎ	tangɛ̌.í	cassava
137.	tavâ	tavɛ̂.í	pipe

138.	tifǎ	tifɛ̌.í	leaf
139.	tiîka	tiîkɛ.í	coal
140.	tów.a	tów.ɛ.í	pumpkin
141.	tɔ́ma	tɔ́mɛ.í	namesake
142.	fǎ	fɛ̌.í	news
143.	wal.ǎ	wal.ɛ̌.í	slate
144.	yaká	yakɛ́.í	(species) rice
145.	yubá	yubɛ́.í	vulture

Tests 20 and 21 are for the preceding drill.

You have been introduced to the various types of irregularities and combinatory rules peculiar to the definite form of the noun. Each phenomenon has been presented more or less in isolation from other matters that might confuse you. The following testing drills have been set up to reinforce and test your ability to form the definite forms of all types of nouns. Groups of nouns will appear in two separate sections. The teacher will first drill the students on each section separately so that the students will be aware of what changes are in question, then the teacher will choose words randomly moving from section to section.

I. A. (ǎ) + (.í) > (ɛ̌.í)

(_¯) + (¯) > (__¯)

1.	ŋamǎ	ŋamɛ̌.í	blood
2.	katǎ	katɛ̌.í	catfish
3.	kpayǎ	kpayɛ̌.í	head tie
4.	kual.ǎ	kual.ɛ̌.í	monkey
5.	kulǎ	kulɛ̌.í	cloth
6.	mahǎ	mahɛ̌.í	chief
7.	mbaǎ	mbɛɛ̌.í	rice
8.	mbalǎ	mbalɛ̌.í	sheep
9.	mitǎ	mitɛ̌.í	spoon
10.	tangǎ	tangɛ̌.í	cassava

B. (á) + (.í) > (á.í)

(_¯) + (¯) > (_¯¯)

1.	ndá	ndɛ́.í	mouth
2.	mbogbá	mbogbɛ́.í	machete
3.	ngá	ngɛ́.í	point
4.	patá	patɛ́.í	mud
5.	yaká	yakɛ́.í	(species) rice
6.	mawá	mawɛ́.í	palm tree
7.	lel.emá	lel.emɛ́.í	praying mantis
8.	jiká	jikɛ́.í	chigger
9.	gɔmá	gɔmɛ́.í	minister bird
10.	gbahá	gbahɛ́.í	bridge
11.	guavá	guavɛ́.í	guava

(Test 22)

II. A. Irregular nouns ending in (o)

(o) + (.í) > (ò.í)

1.	galó	galó.í	October
2.	gbókito	gbókito.í	sandals
3.	kalǒ	kalǒ.í	basin
4.	kpató	kpató.í	machete
5.	kpâw.o	kpâw.o.í	shout
6.	kpaw.ǒ	kpaw.ǒ.í	spinster
7.	kpów.o	kpów.o.í	ankle
8.	ngów.o	ngów.o.í	hip
9.	njow.ǒ	njow.ǒ.í	potato
10.	tôl.o	tôl.o.í	sleeveless shirt
11.	tól.o	tól.o.í	leech

B. (o) + (.í) > (e.í)

1.	kol.ǒ	kol.ě.í	ember
2.	mból.o	mból.e.í	neck
3.	ngolǒ	ngolě.í	chimpanzee
4.	kol.ô	kol.ê.í	driver ant
5.	folô	folê.í	whistle
6.	toôlo	toôle.í	kola nut

(Test 23)

III. A. Irregular Nouns ending in (ɔ)

(ɔ) + (.í) > (ɔ.í)

1.	tɔtɔ̌	tɔtɔ̌.i	sorcery
2.	nɔtɔ	nɔtɔ.í	clam
3.	nɔ́nɔ	nɔ́nɔ.í	milk
4.	ngewɔ̂ɔ	ngewɔ̂ɔ.í	God
5.	kpɔ́yɔ	kpɔ́yɔ.í	cowrie shell
6.	ndɔ́ndɔ	ndɔ́ndɔ.í	millipede
7.	nanɔ	nanɔ.í	July

B. (ɔ) + (.í) > (ɛ.í)

1.	bɔndɔ́	bɔndɛ́.í	okra
2.	bɔlɔ	bɔlɛ.í	hat
3.	fɔ́ndɔ	fɔ́ndɛ.í	sweat
4.	tɔw.ɔ	tɔw.ɛ.í	bean
5.	pɔ̂l.ɔ	pɔ̂l.ɛ.í	mud
6.	nduwɔ̌	nduwɛ̌.í	slave
7.	kɔl.ɔ̌	kɔl.ɛ̌.í	book
8.	kɔw.ɔ	kɔw.ɛ.í	log
9.	kɔ́w.ɔ	kɔ́w.ɛ.í	foot
10.	gɔɔ̂tɔ	gɔɔ̂tɛ.í	rope
11.	hɔwɔ̌	hɔwɛ̌.í	a ceremony
12.	kɔ́ndɔ	kɔ́ndɛ.í	noon meal
13.	kpawɔ̌	kpawɛ̌.í	forked stick
14.	ngú.lɔ	ngú.lɛ.í	oil

(Test 24)

IV. A. Iregular nouns ending in (u)

(u) + (.í) > (u.í)

1. ndú	ndú.í	flesh
2. tutú	tutú.í	go-between
3. petû	petû.í	locust
4. tál.u	tál.u.í	ninth
5. mbalǔ	mbalǔ.í	cane

B. (u) + (.í) > (i.í)

1. dɔ̂w.u	dɔ̂w.i.í	duck
2. kpu.lû	kpu.lî.í	nook
3. ngúl.u	ngúl.i.í	wood
4. tɔl.û	tɔl.î.í	nut
5. búw.u	búw.i.í	April
6. daw.ú	daw.í.í	August
7. fúl.u	fúl.i.í	living creature
8. kɔtǔ	kɔtǐ.í	stone
9. mɔnǔ	mɔnǐ.í	surplus
10. ngulû	ngulî.í	cobra

(Test 25)

V. A. Nouns forming the definite in .v́

1.	pɛ́gba	pɛ́gba.á	January
2.	nyawɛ̂	nyawɛ̂.ɛ́	March
3.	ndêw.é	ndêw.é.é	brother
4.	kpaâ	kpaâ.á	shrimp
5.	sâ	sâ.á	September
6.	bâ	bâ.á	price
7.	piw.ikpâ	piw.ikpâ.á	porcupine

B. (a) + (.í) > (ɛ.í)

(ɛ) + (.í) > (ɛ.í)

(e) + (.í) > (e.í)

1.	gél.e	gél.e.í	falcon
2.	bál.a	bál.ɛ.í	lower jaw
3.	bônga	bôngɛ.í	(species) fish
4.	fakâ	fakɛ̂.í	porch
5.	hél.e	hél.e.í	elephant
6.	pɛ́l.ɛ	pɛ́l.ɛ.í	house
7.	fáw.a	fáw.ɛ.í	boulder
8.	gbanyâ	gbanyɛ̂.í	pincers
9.	kpɛl.ɛ̌	kpɛl.ɛ̌.í	beard
10.	ngel.ě	ngel.ě.í	sky
11.	kɛ́nyɛ	kɛ́nyɛ.í	nation
12.	jambá	jambɛ́.í	hemp
13.	pel.ě	pel.ě.í	road
14.	ngíye	ngíye.í	hill
15.	hókpa	hókpɛ.í	nostril, nose
16.	njɛpɛ̌	njɛpɛ̌.í	talk
17.	hapě	hapě.í	root
18.	mɔ́nɛ	mɔ́nɛ.í	trouble
19.	ngêya	ngêyɛ.í	palm of hand
20.	hóta	hótɛ.í	guest

(Test 26)

VI. A. (o) + (.í) > (e.í)

1.	kol.ǒ	kol.ě.í	ember
2.	ngolǒ	ngolě.í	chimpanzee
3.	toôlo	toôle.í	kola nut
4.	folô	folê.í	whistle
5.	kol.ô	kol.ê.í	driver ant
6.	mból.o	mból.e.í	neck

B. (o) + (.í) > (o.í)

1.	ndopô	ndopô.í	boy
2.	hambô	hambô.í	yawn
3.	navó	navó.í	money
4.	díngbo	díngbo.í	post
5.	mboǒ	mboǒ.í	cassava starch
6.	kokó	kokó.í	kokoyam
7.	ngó	ngó.í	voice
8.	kpako	kpako.í	adult
9.	jakó	jakó.í	small monkey
10.	tokǒ	tokǒ.í	hand
11.	fofô	fofô.í	light
12.	bomuko	bomuko.í	pigeon

(Test 27)

VII. A. (ɔ) + (.í) > (ɛ.í)

1.	kɔl.ɔ̌	kɔl.ɛ̌.í	book
2.	kpɔnɔ	kpɔnɛ.í	brain
3.	pɔ̂l.ɔ	pɔ̂l.ɛ.í	mud
4.	bɔlɔ	bɔlɛ.í	hat
5.	kɔw.ɔ	kɔw.ɛ.í	log
6.	kɔ́ndɔ	kɔ́ndɛ.í	noon meal
7.	bɔndɔ́	bɔndɛ́.í	okra
8.	tɔw.ɔ	tɔw.ɛ.í	bean
9.	kɔ́w.ɔ	kɔ́w.ɛ.í	foot
10.	ngú.lɔ	ngú.lɛ.í	oil

B. (ɔ) + (.í) > (ɔ.í)

1.	bɔɔ́	bɔɔ́.í	thing
2.	higbɔ̌	higbɔ̌.í	wasp
3.	jɔ́bɔ	jɔ́bɔ.í	(species) rice
4.	ndɔvɔ̌	ndɔvɔ̌.í	(species) insect
5.	fɔfɔ	fɔfɔ.í	beetle
6.	kpɔ́kpɔ	kpɔ́kpɔ.í	hammer
7.	kamɔ́	kamɔ́.í	teacher
8.	nyɔɔ̌	nyɔɔ̌.í	corn
9.	kpɔkɔ̂	kpɔkɔ̂.í	evening
10.	ngɔ́ngɔ̂	ngɔ́ngɔ̂.í	tooth

(Test 28)

VIII. A. (u) + (.i) > (i.í)

1.	búl.u	búl.i.í	trumpet
2.	kpu.lû	kpu.lî.í	nook
3.	ndulǔ	ndulǐ.í	smoke
4.	daw.ú	daw.í.í	August
5.	búw.u	búw.i.í	April
6.	dɔ̂w.u	dɔ̂w.i.í	duck
7.	fúl.u	fúl.i.í	living thing
8.	kɔtǔ	kɔtǐ.í	stone
9.	mɔnǔ	mɔnǐ.í	surplus
10.	ngulû	ngulî.í	cobra

B. (u) + (.í) > (u.í)

1.	hakǔ	hakǔ.í	tortoise
2.	kpû	kpû.í	granary
3.	tɛmǔ	tɛmǔ.í	a devil
4.	mbúmbu	mbúmbu.í	fish trap
5.	kpɔ́ku	kpɔ́ku.í	new growth
6.	sɔ́ku	sɔ́ku.í	corner
7.	sûmbu	sûmbu.í	lead
8.	pupû	pupû.í	ant
9.	pɛkû	pɛkû.í	sardine
10.	núm.u	núm.u.í	person

(Test 29)

Summary and Review

There are six ways to make the definite form:

1. When l or w is found between two vowels and it may be deleted, that noun forms the definite with .v́ when the l or w is deleted and otherwise with .í (and a > ɛ, etc.).

2. There are other nouns that always form the definite with .v́. A few nouns form the definite with .v́ and .í even where no consonant seems to have been deleted.

3. Some nouns have completely irregular and more or less unpredictable forms (e.g. ndɔ.ɛ̂.ɛ́ 'earth', pɔ́w.ɛ 'porro society').

4. Most nouns ending in

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{l} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{nd} \\ \text{t} \\ \text{w} \\ \text{y} \end{bmatrix} \text{ before } \begin{bmatrix} \text{u} \\ \text{o} \\ \text{ɔ} \end{bmatrix} \text{ become } \begin{bmatrix} \text{l} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{nd} \\ \text{t} \\ \text{w} \\ \text{y} \end{bmatrix} \text{ before } \begin{bmatrix} \text{i} \\ \text{e} \\ \text{ɛ} \end{bmatrix}$$

This is considered to be a regular assimilation and is quite predictable if one knows the irregular forms.

5. Some nouns ending in

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{l} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{nd} \\ \text{t} \\ \text{w} \\ \text{y} \end{bmatrix} \text{ before } \begin{bmatrix} \text{u} \\ \text{o} \\ \text{ɔ} \end{bmatrix}$$

do not change the final vowel of the base form. They are considered to be irregular (although in the case of --lo the irregularities outnumber the regularities) since they deviate in a seemingly unpredictable way from the general trend of vowel assimilation.

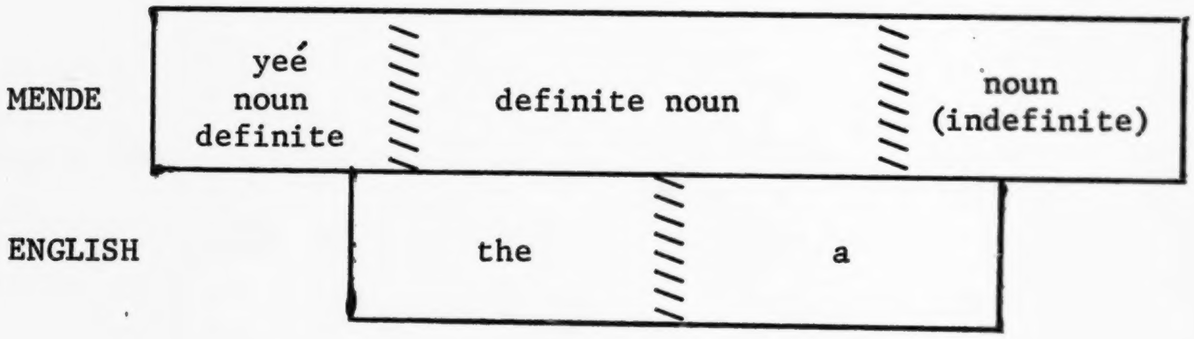
6. All other nouns form the definite simply by adding .í. Presumably by now the student has learned a great number of nouns without trying and some measure of his success is based more on his memorization of particular forms than on the internalizing of a pattern. The student will meet a constant need to demonstrate his facility with the definite forms of nouns throughout the course.

The lexicon is coded so that the proper information for a given word is included in the definition of that word. Nouns which do not undergo stem vowel changes are coded ir (e.g. kpató - cutlass; Nl, ir, with the definite form kpató.í). Nouns which always have a definite form in .v́ are coded vob (e.g. piw.ikpâ - porcupine; Nl, vob, with the definite form piw.ikpâ.á). Nouns which may take .v́ (e.g. when a medial l. or w. is deleted) or .í are coded v (e.g. fáw.a - boulder; Nl, v, with the definite fá.a.á and fáw.ɛ.í). Remember that stem vowel assimilation is considered to be regular. *

The Meaning of the Definite Form

To think of the meaning of the definite form as roughly equivalent to English the may be convenient but quite misleading. There are a number of constructions that call for one or the other of the two forms (definite or indefinite) which can be translated as the or some but in each case it is based on a Mende notion of what definite and indefinite is, not English. It is probably misleading to think of gbɛhɛ́.í as 'the bench' because in many situations gbɛhɛ́.í simply means a bench. The indefinite (base) form is used less frequently and subject to more special conditions than the definite form. When a word is being cited or quoted by a Mende speaker it will most likely be given in the definite form. The indefinite form is sometimes used to indicate intended generality (e.g. gbɛhɛ́ 'just any stool'). If you really intend to be definite in Mende a different form, the prefix yeé is used. Nevertheless, in this course definite forms are often glossed with the and indefinite forms with a. This is done to express the formal similarity ('the form .í and the form the are similar') but not exact formal or semantic equivalence.

A very rough diagram of the parallels between Mende and English definite and indefinite forms follows.



Where specific constructions require one form or the other it will be specified and discussed with the construction involved.

Test 30 will show how well this chapter has been mastered.

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*If you are having difficulty with any particular type of definite formation, you can redrill the particular drill you are troubled by. The last eight drills should cover most problems.

CHAPTER FOUR

POSSESSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS

Possessives: N2 and N3 Nouns

There are six possessive pronouns in Mende:

nyá, nyâ	'my'	mǔ	'our'
bí, bî	'your'	wǔ	'your'
ngǐ	'his, her, its'	tǐ	'their'

The tone markings should be learned carefully. The forms nyâ and nyá are not used interchangeably; their uses will be explained shortly. There are a few words in the lexicon marked N3. They are mostly names for relationships within the Mende family. These N3 nouns are possessed by the nyá, bí forms (not nyâ, bî). The N3 noun class has a very limited number of members.

kɛkɛ̌	father
kênya	uncle
nj̀é	mother
ndíamɔ	friend
mamǎ	grandmother (also mamâ, mamá)
ndêw.é	brother (also vob)
ngɔ̂	elder brother
mbaâ	companion

The N3 words are possessed by the possessive pronouns with no tonal changes, no stem changes and no consonant mutation -- a phenomenon that we will take up shortly. Notice that the pronouns ngǐ, mǔ, wǔ and tǐ have polarized vowels. The vowel of ngǐ (and the other three) is high before mamâ, ngǐmamâ, (¯ _ ╲) and low before ngɔ̂, ngǐngɔ̂ (_ ╲). Normally, we read from left to right but to determine the tone of vowels marked (ˇ) we must work from right to left. In the source transcription ngǐngɔ̂, we first assign phonetic tone to ngɔ̂. That tone is in this case (╲). The tone (╲) begins high and the rule is that polarized vowels (marked ˇ) are low before phonetic highs, and high before phonetic lows. The forms njé 'mother' and kɛ́ 'father' are of a tonally unique nature when they are possessed. The grave accent over the j and k is simply a tonal mapping device. The tone of a sequence of vowels, one marked _́, one low and another marked _́ is (‾ – –) or (‾ _ –). That is, when a low falls between two high marks, _́, the second high is downstepped. Neither j nor k can carry a tone but by assigning a low source transcription mark to j and k the proper tonal sequence for ǹjé and k̀ɛ́ is established, nyáǹjé (‾ –), 'my mother', nyák̀ɛ́ (‾ –), 'my father'. Similarly, the formation ngǐǹjé (‾ –) 'his mother' is explained by the tonal rules that determine the tone of vowels marked _̌ by referring to the tonal unit immediately to the right of the vowel marked _̌. The low tonal unit (marked _̀ here, sometimes unmarked elsewhere) causes the ǐ of ngǐ to be realized as a high. Another rule operating from left to right assigns a downstepped high (mid) tone to the é. The two words are essentially 'irregular' and do not behave exactly like other Mende words as far as tone is concerned, but the tonal phenomenon can be explained by using the same elements devised for the rest of the language, e.g. (´ ` ´) > (‾ – –). Notice that N3 nouns are not given a definite form when these nouns are the names of relatives.

Repeat the following "possessed" N3 nouns after your teacher.

1.	nyákɛ̀kɛ̌	(‾ _ –)	my father
2.	ngǐkênya	(_ ‾ _)	his uncle
3.	tǐngɔ̂	(_ \)	their elder brother
4.	mǔmbaâ	(‾ _ \)	our companion
5.	ngǐndêw.é	(_ ‾ –)	his brother
6.	bíndíamɔ	(‾ ‾ ‾ ‾)	your friend
7.	nyáǹjé	(‾ –)	my mother
8.	tǐmamǎ	(‾ _ –)	their grandmother
9.	nyándíamɔ	(‾ ‾ ‾ ‾)	my friend
10.	tǐngɔ̂	(_ \)	their elder brother
11.	bíkênya	(‾ ‾ _)	your uncle
12.	wǔndíamɔ	(_ ‾ ‾ ‾)	your (pl.) friend
13.	ngǐǹjé	(‾ –)	his mother
14.	wǔkênya	(_ ‾ _)	your (pl.) uncle
15.	bímàmǎ	(‾ _ –)	your grandmother
16.	bíǹjé	(‾ –)	your mother
17.	mǔkɛkɛ̌	(‾ _ –)	our father
18.	nyámbàâ	(‾ _ \)	my companion

19.	tǐndêw.é	(_ ‾ ‾)	their brother
20.	bímbàâ	(‾ _ ╲)	your companion

The list of N3 nouns is short and the student should learn it now. There will be no further glosses of these words in this section.

(The following drill is a substitution drill which will serve mainly to acquaint the student with the operation of the polarized vowels. The teacher will say the word in the center of the page -- that is the starting point. When the teacher reads a word in the left-hand column, the student will substitute that word for a word of the same type in the starting phrase. After the student has formed the possessed word,the teacher will say the correct form and the students will repeat it. The order of this type of drill is not intended to be altered in presentation.)

I. nyákɛkɛ̌

1.	kênya	nyákênya
2.	ngǐ	ngǐkênya
3.	bí	bíkênya
4.	mamǎ	bímàmǎ
5.	ngǐ	ngǐmamǎ
6.	ngɔ̂	ngǐngɔ̂
7.	ndêw.é	ngǐndêw.é
8.	bí	bíndêw.é
9.	kɛkɛ̌	bíkɛ̀kɛ̌
10.	nyá	nyákɛ̀kɛ̌

II. tǐmbaâ

1.	ngɔ̂	tǐngɔ̂
2.	ngǐ	ngǐngɔ̂
3.	bí	bíngɔ̂
4.	kênya	bíkênya
5.	mǔ	mǔkênya
6.	nj̀é	mǔnj̀é
7.	mbaâ	mǔmbaâ

8.	nyá	nyámbàâ
9.	wǔ	wǔmbaâ
10.	kɛkɛ̌	wǔkɛkɛ̌
11.	mǔ	mǔkɛkɛ̌
12.	ndíamɔ	mǔndíamɔ
13.	ǹjé	mǔǹjé
14.	bí	bíǹjé
15.	mamǎ	bímàmǎ
16.	ngɔ̂	bíngɔ̂
17.	nyá	nyángɔ̂
18.	ndêw.é	nyándêw.é
19.	mbaâ	nyámbàâ
20.	tǐ	tǐmbaâ

Test number 31 should be taken now.

Possessives and Consonant Mutation

A rather troublesome phenomenon which is called consonant mutation will be with you in your Mende studies from now on. Under specifiable conditions the following INITIAL consonants and consonant clusters change as follows:

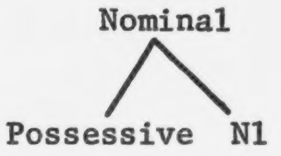
s > j
f > v
t > l
nd > l
p > w
mb > b
k > g
kp > gb
nj > y

$$\text{ng}\begin{bmatrix}i\\e\\\epsilon\\a\end{bmatrix} > \text{y}\begin{bmatrix}i\\e\\\epsilon\\a\end{bmatrix}$$

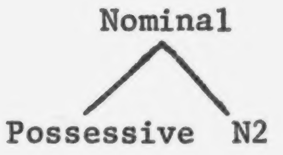
$$\text{ng} \begin{bmatrix} \text{u} \\ \text{o} \\ \text{ɔ} \end{bmatrix} > \text{w} \begin{bmatrix} \text{u} \\ \text{o} \\ \text{ɔ} \end{bmatrix}$$

There are a very few exceptions to the consonant mutation rules and these will be drawn to your attention as they arise. They are noted in the lexicon. The student should memorize the list of changes now. There are five grammatical relationships which require consonant mutation. They are discussed and illustrated below and drilled elsewhere.

I. An N1 or N2 noun following a possessive pronoun has a mutated initial consonant.



N1		
pɛ́l.ɛ.í	nyâ-wɛl.ɛ.í *	my house
kulɛ̌.í	bî-gulɛ.í	your cloth
sani.í	ngǐ-jani.í	his law
fɛlɛ̂.í	ngǐ-vɛlɛ.í	her winnowing fan
ndomɛ̌.í	tǐ-lomɛ.í	their shirt
mbɛɛ̌.í	ngǐ-bɛɛ.í	her rice
kpukɔ̌.í	nyâ-gbukɔ.í	my bed



N2		
kpɛl.ɛ̌.í	nyágbɛ̀l.ɛ̌.í	my beard
ngómbi.í	bíwómbi.í	your knee
mból.e.í	ngǐból.e.í	his neck
nguǔ.í	nyáwùǔ.í	my head

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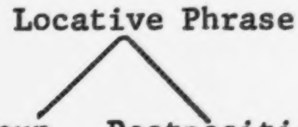
*The function of the hyphen and the tonal changes will be explained later.

II. The second noun* in nominal compounds is mutated.

N	N N	
fáji.í	njaǎ-vaji.í	water bucket
kulɛ̌.í	fandě-gulɛ.í	cotton cloth

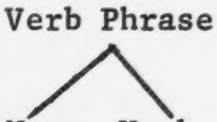
III. A postposition following a noun is mutated.



Postposition	Noun Postposition	
ngumbá	pɛ́l.ɛ.îwumbá	on top of the house
mbu	pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	in (under) the house
kohú	fáji îgohú	in the bucket

IV. The transitive verb is mutated when a direct object is present.

(It is possible to delete the object of a transitive verb leaving only ˋ. There is no mutation after ˋ.)



Verb	Noun Verb	
paǎ	ŋɔnǐ.îwàǎ	kill the bird
ndew.ě	ndopô.îlew.ě	beat the boy
kɔ̂l.i	gboji.îgɔ̂l.i	pick the plum

Consonant mutation occurs in one direction only (i.e. words beginning in their base form with w do not change to p). It is necessary of course to learn the base forms of all words. Test number 32 on consonant mutation is to be taken now.

Possessed N2 Nouns

The N2 nouns are almost exclusively the names of parts of the body and things associated with the immediate personal being. When N2 nouns are possessed the initial consonant is mutated and the noun is in the definite form.

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* . . . or intransitive verb via a transformation (being considered an adjective).

Drill I. This drill is intended mainly to give the student practice in changing the consonants of the nouns involved. "Possess" each of the following nouns with bí 'your'.

1.	mból.o	bíból.e.í	your neck
2.	nguǔ	bíwùǔ.í	your head
3.	ngómbi	bíwómbi.í	your knee
4.	ngól.i	bíwól.i.í	your ear
5.	kpɛl.ɛ̌	bígbɛ̀l.ɛ̌.í	your beard
6.	fɔ́ndɔ	bívɔ́ndɛ.í	your sweat
7.	kál.a	bígál.ɛ.í	your bone
8.	kɔlɔ̂	bígɔ̀lɛ̂.í	your skin
9.	kɔngâ	bígɔ̀ngɛ̂.í	your occiput
10.	kɔ́w.ɔ	bígɔ́w.ɛ.í	your foot
11.	kpakî	bígbàkî.í	your shoulder
12.	kpál.a	bígbál.ɛ.í	your lap
13.	kpɔnɔ	bígbɔ̀nɛ.í	your brain
14.	kpuhǎ	bígbùhɛ̌.í	your build
15.	mbondâ	bíbòndâ.á	your kinsman
16.	ndá	bílɛ́.í	your name
17.	ndatǎ	bílàtɛ̌.í	your vein
18.	ndú	bílú.í	your flesh
19.	ngâma	bíyâmɛ.í	your eye
20.	ngó	bíwó.í	your voice
21.	ngów.o	bíwów.o.í	your hip
22.	ngɔ́ngɔ̂.ɔ	bíyɔ́ngɔ̂.ɔ.í *	your tooth
23.	njombǒ	bíyòmbǒ.í	your hair
24.	tokǒ	bílòkǒ.í	your hand

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* ngɔ́ngɔ̂.ɔ mutates to yɔ́ngɔ̂.ɔ irregularly.

25.	kpów.o	bígbów.o.í	your ankle
26.	kóma	bígómɛ.í	your cheek
27.	mbiyɛ̂ *	bíbìyɛ.í	your name

Drill II. There are other names of body parts that begin with consonants that do not mutate. 'Possess' these with nyá.

1.	bɔtâni	nyábɔ̀tâni.í	my fist
2.	dígbe	nyádígbe.í	my heel
3.	gbɔ́gbɔ	nyágbɔ́gbɔ	my own
4.	hakâ	nyáhàkɛ̂.í	my shin
5.	háw.ama	nyáháw.amɛ̂.í	my waist
6.	hókpa	nyáhókpɛ.í	my nose
7.	nɛ́	nyánɛ́.ɛ́	my tongue
8.	nɔkɔ̂	nyánɔ̀kɔ̂.í	my elbow
9.	nyɛnɛ̂	nyányɛ̀nɛ̂.í	my liver
10.	ŋamǎ	nyáŋàmɛ̌.í	my blood

The following drill is a substitution drill which should be presented as described previously in this chapter. Mutating consonants and those that do not mutate are mixed together.

Drill III.

ngǐgɔlɛ̂.í

1.	mból.o	ngǐból.e.í	his neck
2.	nyá	nyából.e.í	my neck
3.	tǐ	tǐból.e.í	their neck
4.	ngó	tǐwó.í	their voice
5.	mǔ	mǔwó.í	our voice
6.	mbondâ	mǔbondâ.á	our kinsmen
7.	ngǐ	ngǐbondâ.á	his kinsmen
8.	ngómbi	ngǐwómbi.í	his knee

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* mbiyɛ̂ when not possessed, mbìyɛ when possessed.

9.	nɔkɔ̂	ngǐnɔkɔ̂.í	his elbow
10.	ngâma	ngǐyâmɛ.í	his eye
11.	tokǒ	ngǐlokǒ.í	his hand
12.	nyá	nyálɔ̀kǒ.í	my hand
13.	nɛ́	nyánɛ́.ɛ́	my tongue
14.	bí	bínɛ́.ɛ́	your tongue
15.	ngól.i	bíwól.i.í	your ear
16.	nguǔ	bíwùǔ.í	your head
17.	bɔtâni	bíbɔ̀tâni.í	your fist
18.	nyá	nyábɔ̀tâni.í	my fist
19.	kpakî	nyágbàkî.í	my shoulder
20.	kɔ́w.ɔ	nyágɔ́w.ɛ.í	my foot
21.	kóma	nyágómɛ.í	my cheek
22.	ngó	nyáwó.í	my voice
23.	ngǐ	ngǐwó.í	his voice
24.	bí	bíwó.í	your voice
25.	ngǐ	ngǐwó.í	his voice

Drill IV.

ngǐwuǔ.í

1.	koǒ	ngǐgoǒ.í	his stomach
2.	ngól.i	ngǐwól.i.í	his ear
3.	tokǒ	ngǐlokǒ.í	his hand
4.	nyá	nyálɔ̀kǒ.í	my hand
5.	bí	bílɔ̀kǒ.í	your hand
6.	ngómbi	bíwómbi.í	your knee
7.	ngǐ	ngǐwómbi.í	his knee
8.	fɔ́ndɔ	ngǐvɔ́ndɛ.í	his sweat
9.	ndatǎ	ngǐlatɛ̌.í	his muscle
10.	ngâma	ngǐyâmɛ.í	his eye

Drill V.

bíyɔ́ngɔ̂.ɔ.í

1.	mból.o	bíból.e.í	your neck
2.	ndá	bílɛ́.í	your name
3.	hókpa	bíhókpɛ.í	your nose
4.	ngǐ	ngǐhókpɛ.í	his nose
5.	nɛ́	ngǐnɛ́.ɛ́	his tongue
6.	kɔlɔ̂	ngǐgɔlɛ̂.í	your skin
7.	dígbe	ngǐdígbe.í	his heel
8.	nyá	nyádígbe.í	my heel
9.	kpakî	nyágbàkî.í	my shoulder
10.	bí	bígbàkî.í	your shoulder

There are more N2 nouns than N3 nouns and considerably less of both N2 and N3 nouns than N1 nouns. Working on the premise that knowing which nouns are N2 and N3, almost all new nouns then will be N1, the student is asked to memorize the N2 nouns presented in this section. Toward this goal the teacher may wish to go through the previous exercises and use the vocabulary for an English to Mende translation exercise.

N1 Nouns and Possessive Pronouns

Nouns coded N1 in the lexicon are possessed by the following pronouns:

nyâ	'my'	mǔ	'our'
bî	'your'	wǔ	'your' (pl.)
ngǐ	'his, her, its'	tǐ	'their'

When N1 nouns are possessed there are three points to remember.

1. The noun takes the definite form.

2. The initial consonant of the noun mutates.

3. There is a tonal change in the stem of the noun.

For the purposes of this chapter the tones the noun assumes can be explained quite simply. After a possessor with the vowel marked ^, the noun loses any type of tonal source mark that it has in its lexical form and becomes low in tone. The definite form .í is then affixed to the nouns as with all other low nouns. For example,

nyâ
        > nyâ-wɛl.ɛ.í 'my house'
pɛ́l.ɛ   (¯ _ _-)

It is important to notice that the tone of *nyâ* here is simply (¯) and not (╲).

After a possessive with the vowel marked ̲ˇ, the noun again loses any type of tonal source mark it may have and behaves as if its first vowel were marked ̲ˆ. For example,

ngǐ
        > ngǐ-wɛl.ɛ.í 'his house'
pɛ́l.ɛ   (- ¯ --)
            (_ ¯ _-)

As mentioned before, the actual tone of the *ǐ* in *ngǐ* is assigned after the vowel to its right has been assigned actual phonetic tone. Since in this construction the first vowel of the noun is always high, the *ǐ* of *ngǐ* is *always low*. In both cases the pronoun and the noun are connected by a hyphen. The reasoning for introducing a hyphen in this and other constructions will be discussed in the section on compounds. Let it suffice to say now that it serves to mark the difference between the tonal pattern encountered in *Pronoun + N1* and the tonal pattern in *Pronoun + N2*.

In the following drills the tonal change is probably the simplest of the operations you must perform. You will be given the definite form of a noun. 'Possess' the noun with the pronoun indicated. Pay attention to consonant mutation.

Drill VI. 'Possess' these nouns with *ngǐ*.

1.	pɛ́l.ɛ́	ngǐ-wɛl.ɛ.í (_¯--)	his house
2.	mbogbɛ́.í	ngǐ-bogbɛ.í (_¯--)	his machete
3.	mbil.î.í	ngǐ-bil.i.í (_¯--)	his drum
4.	mbomǎ	ngǐ-bomɛ.í	his net
5.	tɛɛ̌.í	ngǐ-lɛɛ.í	his town
6.	tavɛ̂.í	ngǐ-lavɛ.í	his pipe
7.	tɔ́kpɔ.í	ngǐ-lɔkpɔ.í	his palm tree
8.	taw.ɛ̌.í	ngǐ-law.ɛ.í	his tobacco
9.	kal.ɛ̌.í	ngǐ-gal.ɛ.í	his fish trap
10.	kâl.i.í	ngǐ-gal.i.í	his hoe
11.	kaŋá.á	ngǐ-gaŋa.á	his case

12.	kalǒ.í	ngǐ-galo.í	his basin

Drill VII. 'Possess' the following with bî.

1.	kpol.ě.í	bî-gbol.e.í	(¯ _ _ ¯)	your salt
2.	kpû	bî-gbu.í	(¯ _ _ ¯)	your granary
3.	kpúnyɛ	bî-gbunyɛ.í	(¯ _ _ ¯)	your charcoal
4.	kpɔ́kpɔ.í	bî-gbɔkpɔ.í		your hammer
5.	ngál.ɛ.í	bî-yal.ɛ.í		your mat
6.	ngetê.í	bî-yete.í		your pestle
7.	ngeyɛ̌.í	bî-yeyɛ.í		your rope
8.	ngáku.í	bî-yaku.í		your crab
9.	ngúl.i.í	bî-wul.i.í		your wood
10.	ngú.lɛ.í	bî-wu.lɛ.í		your oil
11.	ngɔmbǔ.í	bî-yɔmbu.í		your fire

Drill VIII. 'Possess' the following with nyâ.

1.	fɛlɛ̂.í	nyâ-vɛlɛ.í	my winnowing fan
2.	fogbɛ̂.í	nyâ-vogbɛ.í	my whip
3.	fulɛ.í	nyâ-vulɛ.í	my village
4.	fof.ô.í	nyâ-vof.o.í	my light
5.	nduwɛ̌.í	nyâ-luwɛ.í	my slave
6.	ndɔɔ̌.í	nyâ-lɔɔ.í	my wine
7.	ndomɛ̌.í	nyâ-lomɛ.í	my shirt
8.	ndól.i.í	nyâ-lol.i.í	my hook
9.	pel.ɛ̌.í	nyâ-wel.e.í	my road
10.	pɛ́l.ɛ.í	nyâ-wɛl.ɛ.í	my house
11.	pujɛ.í	nyâ-wujɛ.í	my pepper
12.	pû.í	nyâ-wu.í	my cave
13.	sani.í	nyâ-jani.í	my bottle

14.	sɔ́ku.í	nyâ-jɔku.í	my corner
15.	sɔ́li.í	nyâ-jɔli.í	my spear
16.	sûmbu.í	nyâ-jumbu.í	my lead weight

In the next extensive set of drills you will be given the indefinite form only. You will have to concentrate on tonal changes, consonant mutation and formation of the definite.

Drill IX. 'Possess' each of the following nouns with nyâ after the teacher reads the indefinite form.

1.	bafa	nyâ-bafɛ.í	my hut
2.	ba.la	nyâ-ba.lɛ.í	my basket
3.	bámande	nyâ-bamande.í	my bell
4.	bɛlɛ	nyâ-bɛlɛ.í	my trousers
5.	bola	nyâ-bolɛ.í	my cup
6.	bônga	nyâ-bongɛ.í	my fish
7.	bɔlɔ	nyâ-bɔlɛ.í	my hat
8.	bubá	nyâ-buba.á	my tunic
9.	búl.u	nyâ-bul.i.í	my trumpet
10.	dɔmɛ́	nyâ-dɔmɛ.í	my story
11.	dɔ̂w.u	nyâ-dɔw.i.í	my duck
12.	fáji	nyâ-vaji.í	my bucket
13.	fakâl.i	nyâ-vakal.i.í	my pawpaw
14.	fasâ	nyâ-vasɛ.í	my lobster
15.	fɛɛ̌	nyâ-vɛɛ.í	my pot

Drill X. 'Possess' the following nouns with ngǐ.

1.	fɛlɛ̂	ngǐ-vɛlɛ.í	her winnowing fan
2.	fɛ́ngbɛ	ngǐ-vɛngbɛ.í	her satin
3.	fof.ô	ngǐ-vof.o.í	its light
4.	fogbâ	ngǐ-vogbɛ.í	his whip

5.	fóma	ngǐ-vomɛ.í	his switches
6.	foni	ngǐ-voni.í	his elephant grass
7.	fula	ngǐ-vulɛ.í	his village
8.	gbahá	ngǐ-gbahɛ.í	his bridge
9.	gbanyâ	ngǐ-gbanyɛ.í	his pliers
10.	gbawɛ́	ngǐ~~-gbawɛ~~.í	his hat
11.	gbɛhɛ́	ngǐ-gbɛhɛ.í	his bench
12.	gboji	ngǐ-gboji.í	his plum
13.	gɔɔ̂ta	ngǐ-gɔɔtɛ.í	his gutter
14.	haâka	ngǐ-haakɛ.í	his burden
15.	haka	ngǐ-hakɛ.í	his ladder

Drill XI. 'Possess' the following nouns with bî.

1.	hál.e	bî-hal.e.í	your medicine
2.	hɛ́mu	bî-hɛmu.í	your torch
3.	hinî	bî-hini.í	your husband
4.	hóta	bî-hotɛ.í	your guest
5.	jakó	bî-jako.í	your monkey
6.	jambá	bî-jambɛ.í	your hemp
7.	jiw.î	bî-jiw.i.í	your key
8.	jɔwɔ́	bî-jɔwɛ.í	your chain
9.	kal.ǎ	bî-gal.ɛ.í	your fish trap
10.	kál.a	bî-gal.ɛ.í	your bone
11.	kal.ǐ	bî-gal.i.í	your snake
12.	kâl.i	bî-gal.i.í	your hoe
13.	kalǒ	bî-galo.í	your basin
14.	káni	bî-gani.í	your metal
15.	kaŋá	bî-gaŋa.á	your case

Drill XII. 'Possess' the following nouns with tǐ.

1.	katǎ	tǐ-gatɛ.í	their catfish
2.	káta	tǐ-gatɛ.í	their compound
3.	kél.e	tǐ-gel.e.í	their drum
4.	ketě	tǐ-gete.í	their guinea corn
5.	kényɛ	tǐ-gɛnyɛ.í	their nation
6.	kíti	tǐ-giti.í	their dilemma
7.	kokó	tǐ-goko.í	their kokoyam
8.	kol.ǒ	tǐ-gol.e.í	their fireplace
9.	kondâ	tǐ-gondɛ.í	their mortar
10.	kóni	tǐ-goni.í	their ax
11.	kɔlǐ	tǐ-gɔli.í	their iron
12.	kɔl.ɔ̌	tǐ-gɔl.ɛ.í	their book
13.	kɔ́ndɔ	tǐ-gɔndɛ.í	their noon meal
14.	kɔwɔ	tǐ-gɔwɔ.í	their log
15.	kɔwɔ̌	tǐ-gɔwɛ.í	their shoe

Drill XIII. 'Possess' these nouns with nyâ.

1.	kɔ̂w.u	nyâ-gɔw.i.í	my box
2.	kɔw.ǔ	nyâ-gɔw.i.í	my firewood
3.	kpaâ	nyâ-gbaa.á	my shrimp
4.	kpa.ǎ	nyâ-gba.a.á	my farm
5.	kpakal.i	nyâ-gbakal.i.í	my chair
6.	kpáma	nyâ-gbamɛ.í	my suspenders
7.	kpandɛ̂	nyâ-gbandɛ.í	my gun
8.	kpángba	nyâ-gbangbɛ.í	my broom
9.	kpatɛ̂	nyâ-gbatɛ.í	my wealth
10.	kpató	nyâ-gbato.í	my machete

11.	kpáva	nyâ-gbavɛ.í	my pocket
12.	kpáw.u	nyâ-gbaw.i.í	my bridge
13.	kpayǎ	nyâ-gbayɛ.í	my head tie
14.	kpekâ	nyâ-gbekɛ.í	my razor
15.	kpéte	nyâ-gbete.í	my swamp

Drill XIV. 'Possess' these nouns with mǔ.

1.	kpɛmbô	mǔ-gbɛmbo.í	our decision
2.	kpôji	mǔ-gboji.í	our kokoyam
3.	kpol.ǒ	mǔ-gbol.e.í	our salt
4.	kpɔ́kpɔ	mǔ-gbɔkpɔ.í	our hammer
5.	kpû	mǔ-gbu.í	our granary
6.	kpuâ	mǔ-gbuɛ.í	our farm house
7.	kpukɔ̌	mǔ-gbukɔ.í	our bed
8.	kpúnyɛ	mǔ-gbunyɛ.í	our charcoal
9.	kulǎ	mǔ-gulɛ.í	our cloth
10.	kûl.u	mǔ-gul.i.í	our shed
11.	lal.a	mǔ-lal.ɛ.í	our paddle
12.	mahǎ	mǔ-mahɛ.í	our chief
13.	mângo	mǔ-mango.í	our mango
14.	mbaǎ	mǔ-bɛɛ.í	our rice
15.	mbalǎ	mǔ-balɛ.í	our sheep

Drill XV. 'Possess' these nouns with bî.

1.	mbalǔ	bî-balu.í	your cane
2.	mbawâ	bî-bawɛ.í	your soap
3.	mbembě	bî-bembe.í	your fishing net
4.	mbɛtɛ̌	bî-bɛtɛ.í	your watch tower
5.	mbil.î	bî-bil.i.í	your drum

6.	mbogbá	bî-bogbɛ.í	your machete
7.	mbomǎ	bî-bomɛ.í	your net
8.	mbówa	bî-bowɛ.í	your knife
9.	mbû	bî-bu.í	your owl
10.	mɛmɛ	bî-mɛmɛ.í	your mirror
11.	miîji	bî-miiji.í	your needle
12.	mitǎ	bî-mitɛ.í	your spoon
13.	navó	bî-navo.í	your money
14.	ndahɛ̂	bî-lahɛ.í	your promise

Drill XVI. 'Possess' these nouns with ngǐ.

1.	ndámba	ngǐ-lambɛ.í	his crocodile
2.	ndavúla	ngǐ-lavulɛ.í	his sling
3.	ndégbe	ngǐ-legbe.í	his catfish
4.	ndikpǎ	ngǐ-likpɛ.í	his arrow
5.	ndikpɔ̌	ngǐ-likpɔ.í	his walking stick
6.	ndíle	ngǐ-lile.í	his python
7.	ndól.i	ngǐ-lol.i.í	his hook
8.	ndomǎ	ngǐ-lomɛ.í	his shirt
9.	ndónda	ngǐ-londɛ.í	his pig
10.	ndovǒ	ngǐ-lovo.í	his frog
11.	ndów.a	ngǐ-low.ɛ.í	his well
12.	ndów.o	ngǐ-low.o.í	his horn
13.	ndɔgbɔ̌	ngǐ-lɔgbɔ.í	his forest
14.	ndɔɔ̌	ngǐ-lɔɔ.í	his wine
15.	nduwɔ̌	ngǐ-luwɛ.í	his slave

Drill XVII. 'Possess' these nouns with bî.

1.	nɛnɛ	bî-nɛnɛ.í	your shadow

2.	ngáku	bî-yaku.í	your crab
3.	ngál.a	bî-yal.ɛ.í	your mat
4.	ngengě	bî-yenge.í	your work
5.	ngetê	bî-yete.í	your pestle
6.	njé	bî-ye.í	your goat
7.	ngeyǎ	bî-yeyɛ.í	your rope
8.	ngî.la	bî-yi.lɛ.í	your dog
9.	ngol.ě	bî-wol.e.í	your song
10.	ngolǒ	bî-wole.í	your chimpanzee
11.	ngɔfɛ	bî-wɔfɛ.í	your discoveries
12.	ngɔkǎ	bî-ngɔkɛ.í	your (species) fish
13.	ngɔmbǔ	bî-yɔmbu.í	your fire
14.	ngúl.u	bî-wul.i.í	your wood
15.	ngú.lɔ	bî-wu.lɛ.í	your oil
16.	nikǎ	bî-nikɛ.í	your cow
17.	njé	bî-ye.í	your goat
18.	nɔmɔlî	bî-nɔmɔli.í	your nɔmɔli
19.	nɔtɔ	bî-nɔtɔ.í	your mussel
20.	nyahâ	bî-nyahɛ.í	your wife

Drill XVIII. 'Possess' these nouns with tǐ.

1.	nyɛ́	tǐ-nyɛ.í	their fish
2.	nyɔɔ̌	tǐ-nyɔɔ.í	their corn
3.	nyɔkɔ̂	tǐ-nyɔkɔ.í	their sugar cane
4.	ŋanyǎ	tǐ-ŋanyɛ.í	their sand
5.	ŋɔnǐ	tǐ-ŋɔni.í	their bird
6.	pámba	tǐ-bambɛ.í *	their rushes
7.	patá	tǐ-patɛ.í	their mud

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* p to b in this word

8.	pel.ě	tǐ-wel.e.í	their road
9.	pɛkû	tǐ-wɛku.í	their bait
10.	pɛ́l.ɛ	tǐ-wɛl.ɛ.í	their house
11.	píya	tǐ-wiyɛ.í	their fish basket
12.	pû	tǐ-wu.í	their cave
13.	pujɛ	tǐ-wujɛ.í	their pepper
14.	sámba	tǐ-jambɛ.í	their basket
15.	sani	tǐ-jani.í	their bottle
16.	sɛ́mɛ	tǐ-jɛmɛ.í	their barre
17.	sɔ́ku	tǐ-jɔku.í	their corner
18.	sɔ́li	tǐ-jɔli.í	their spear
19.	sûmbu	tǐ-jumbu.í	their lead

Drill XIX. 'Possess' these nouns with nyâ.

1.	taǎ	nyâ-lɛɛ.í	my town
2.	tavâ	nyâ-lavɛ.í	my pipe
3.	taw.ǎ	nyâ-law.ɛ.í	my tobacco
4.	tíkpɔ	nyâ-likpɔ.í	my walking stick
5.	tów.u	nyâ-low.i.í	my palm kernel
6.	tɔ́kpɔ	nyâ-lɔkpɔ.í	my palm tree
7.	tɔ́w.ɔ	nyâ-lɔw.ɛ.í	my fame
8.	túpu	nyâ-lupu.í	my (species) snake
9.	vanjǎ	nyâ-vanjɛ.í	my loincloth
10.	yawa	nyâ-yawɛ.í	my onion

The following set of drills will permit you to practice consonant mutation out of alphabetical order. The nouns are given in the base form.

Drill XX. 'Possess' the following as indicated.

A. ngǐ

1.	kal.ǎ	ngǐ-gal.ɛ.í	his fish trap

2.	kɛ́nyɛ	ngǐ-gɛnyɛ.í	his nation
3.	kpángba	ngǐ-gbangbɛ.í	his broom
4.	mbaǎ	ngǐ-bɛɛ.í	his rice
5.	ndomǎ	ngǐ-lomɛ.í	his shirt

B. bî

1.	ngeyǎ	bî-yeyɛ.í	your rope
2.	pɛ́l.ɛ	bî-wɛl.ɛ.í	your house
3.	sani	bî-jani.í	your bottle
4.	sɔ́li	bî-jɔli.í	your spear
5.	ngú.lɔ	bî-wu.lɛ.í	your oil

C. tǐ

1.	taǎ	tǐ-lɛɛ.í	their town
2.	fáji	tǐ-vaji.í	their bucket
3.	ndɔɔ̌	tǐ-lɔɔ.í	their wine
4.	ngolǒ	tǐ-wole.í	their chimpanzee
5.	pɛkû	tǐ-wɛku.í	their bait

D. nyâ

1.	sûmbu	nyâ-jumbu.í	my lead weight
2.	pujɛ	nyâ-wujɛ.í	my pepper
3.	tɔ́w.ɔ	nyâ-lɔw.ɛ.í	my fame
4.	fɛɛ̌	nyâ-vɛɛ.í	my pot
5.	kâl.i	nyâ-gal.i.í	my hoe

The teacher should be able to use these lists with both types of pronouns, $\hat{\_}$ and $\check{\_}$, and choose various N1 nouns at random.

The next drill is a substitution drill.

(Nouns are given in the definite form. Bî and nyâ are not normally pronounced in isolation. The Mende speaker will wish to say nyá (¯) and bí (¯) in those cases where he is required to say it in isolation. Since it is not normally pronounced alone anyway there is no argument.

Learn the base forms nyá and bí with N2 and N3 nouns and nyâ and bî with N1 nouns for the correct tonal mapping.)

Drill XXI.

		nyâ-gondɛ.í	my mortar
1.	kâl.i.í	nyâ-gal.i.í	my hoe
2.	ngǐ	ngǐ-gal.i.í	his hoe
3.	bî	bî-gal.i.í	your hoe
4.	taw.ɛ̌.í	bî-law.ɛ.í	your tobacco
5.	ngɔmbǔ.í	bî-yɔmbu.í	your fire
6.	tǐ	tǐ-yɔmbu.í	their fire
7.	kpol.e.í	tǐ-gbol.e.í	their salt
8.	nyâ	nyâ-gbol.e.í	my salt
9.	ngǐ	ngǐ-gbol.e.í	his salt
10.	ngál.ɛ.í	ngǐ-yal.ɛ.í	his mat
11.	bî	bî-yal.ɛ.í	your mat
12.	tǐ	tǐ-yal.ɛ.í	their mat
13.	fɛlɛ̂.í	tǐ-vɛlɛ.í	their winnowing fan
14.	nyâ	nyâ-vɛlɛ.í	my winnowing fan
15.	tɔ́kpɔ.í	nyâ-lɔkpɔ.í	my palm tree
16.	ngǐ	ngǐ-lɔkpɔ.í	his palm tree

Drill XXII.

		ngǐ-lavɛ.í	his pipe
1.	mbogbɛ́.í	ngǐ-bogbɛ.í	his machete
2.	nyâ	nyâ-bogbɛ.í	my machete
3.	tǐ	tǐ-bogbɛ.í	their machete
4.	kpû.í	tǐ-gbu.í	their granary
5.	bî	bî-gbu.í	your granary
6.	ngúl.i.í	bî-wul.i.í	your wood

7.	ngǐ	ngǐ-wul.i.í	his wood
8.	fulɛ.í	ngǐ-vulɛ.í	his village
9.	ndɔɔ̌.í	ngǐ-lɔɔ.í	his wine
10.	nyâ	nyâ-lɔɔ.í	my wine
11.	pɛ́l.ɛ.í	nyâ-wɛl.ɛ.í	my house
12.	sɔ́li.í	nyâ-jɔli.í	my spear
13.	mǔ	mǔ-jɔli.í	our spear
14.	nduwɛ̌.í	mǔ-luwɛ.í	our slave
15.	bî	bî-luwɛ.í	your slave
16.	tǐ	tǐ-luwɛ.í	their slave
17.	pel.ě.í	tǐ-wel.e.í	their road
18.	mǔ	mǔ-wel.e.í	our road
19.	kal.ɛ̌.í	mǔ-gal.ɛ.í	our fish trap
20.	ngǐ	ngǐ-gal.ɛ.í	his fish trap

Summary and Review

There is a nominal grouping consisting of Possessive Pronoun + Noun (+ definite). When the noun is N1, the possessive pronouns are nyâ bî, ngǐ, mǔ, wǔ and tǐ and the definite marker .í or .v́ is required. The possessive pronoun is connected to the N1 noun by a hyphen and there is a predictable tonal change. Since the tone of the noun is predictable, no tone is marked on the noun in this basic course. The N1 nouns beginning with mutable consonants mutate. When the noun is N2 the possessive pronouns are nyá, bí, ngǐ, mǔ, wǔ and tǐ and the definite marker is required as is consonant mutation where applicable. The lexical tone is not changed except for changes brought about by affixation of the definite marker. When the noun is N3, neither the definite marker nor consonant mutation is required. The lexical tone of the N3 noun is used unchanged.

The following review drills will give the student practice in forming the various types of possessive compounds without the benefit of having the different types of nouns given in isolated groups. You have learned which nouns are N2 and N3. All others in the drills are N1. No new words are introduced in this drill.

Drill XXIII.

A. 'Possess' the following with nyá or nyâ.

1.	kâl.i	nyâ-gal.i.í	my hoe
2.	kênya	nyákênya	my uncle
3.	ngɔ̂	nyángɔ̂	my elder brother
4.	ndomǎ	nyâ-lomɛ.í	my shirt
5.	mból.o	nyából.e.í	my neck
6.	ndɔɔ̌	nyâ-lɔɔ.í	my wine
7.	ngó	nyáwó.í	my voice
8.	ǹjé	nyáǹjé	my mother
9.	fɛɛ̌	nyâ-vɛɛ.í	my pot
10.	sani	nyâ-jani.í	my bottle
11.	nguǔ	nyáwùǔ.í	my head
12.	mamǎ	nyámàmǎ	my grandmother
13.	kpɛl.ɛ̌	nyágbɛ̀l.ɛ̌.í	my beard
14.	fáji	nyâ-vaji.í	my bucket

B. 'Possess' the following nouns with ngǐ.

1.	mɛmɛ	ngǐ-mɛmɛ.í	his mirror
2.	bɛlɛ	ngǐ-bɛlɛ.í	his trousers
3.	nguǔ	ngǐwuǔ.í	his head
4.	fandě	ngǐ-vande.í	his cotton
5.	ndopô	ngǐ-lopo.í	his boy
6.	kâl.i	ngǐ-gal.i.í	his hoe
7.	kal.ǐ	ngǐ-gal.i.í	his snake
8.	ǹjé	ngǐǹjé	his mother
9.	kɔlɔ̂	ngǐgɔlɛ̂.í	his skin
10.	ŋamǎ	ngǐŋàmɛ̌.í	his blood
11.	nyaha	ngǐ-nyahɛ.í	his wife
12.	kóma	ngǐgómɛ.í	his cheek

13.	fáji	ngǐ-vaji.í	his bucket
14.	ngɔ̂	ngǐngɔ̂	his elder brother
15.	mbiyɛ̂	ngǐbiyɛ.í	his name

C. 'Possess' the following with bí or bî.

1.	kênya	bíkênya	your uncle
2.	sámba	bî-jambɛ.í	your basket
3.	pujɛ	bî-wujɛ.í	your pepper
4.	ndɔɔ̌	bî-lɔɔ.í	your wine
5.	ǹjé	bíǹjé	your mother
6.	bubá	bî-buba.á	your tunic
7.	háka	bî-hakɛ.í	your ladder
8.	haâka	bî-haakɛ.í	your load
9.	ndêw.é	bíndêw.é	your brother
10.	sani	bî-jani.í	your bottle
11.	ŋɔnǐ	bî-ŋɔni.í	your bird
12.	k̀ɛ́	bík̀ɛ́	your father
13.	ndó	bî-lo.í	your child
14.	njé	bî-ye.í	your goat
15.	koǒ	bígòǒ.í	your stomach

D. 'Possess' the following with nyá or nyâ.

1.	mbaâ	nyámbàâ	my companion
2.	mbogbá	nyâ-bogbɛ.í	my cutlass
3.	tokǒ	nyálòkǒ.í	my hand
4.	kpów.o	nyágbów.o.í	my ankle
5.	ndêw.é	nyándêw.é	my brother
6.	tavâ	nyâ-lavɛ.í	my pipe
7.	nɔkɔ̂	nyánɔ̀kɔ̂.í	my elbow

8.	kâl.i	nyâ-gal.i.í	my hoe
9.	k̀ɛ́	nyák̀ɛ́	my father
10.	hókpa	nyáhókpɛ.í	my nose
11.	búl.u	nyâ-bul.i.í	my trumpet
12.	bɔtâni	nyábɔ̀tâni.í	my fist
13.	fɛɛ̌	nyâ-vɛɛ.í	my pot
14.	kpɔ́kpɔ.í	nyâ-gbɔkpɔ.í	my hammer

E. 'Possess' the following with ngǐ.

1.	mbɔ́l.o	ngǐból.e.í	his neck
2.	pɛ́l.ɛ	ngǐ-wɛl.ɛ.í	his house
3.	kênya	ngǐkênya	his uncle
4.	ndomǎ	ngǐ-lomɛ.í	his shirt
5.	fɔ́ndɔ	ngǐvɔ́ndɛ.í	his sweat
6.	mbawâ	ngǐ-bawɛ.í	his soap
7.	sɔ́li	ngǐ-jɔli.í	his spear
8.	ndíamɔ	ngǐndíamɔ.í	his friend
9.	ndá	ngǐlɛ́.í	his mouth
10.	mbaǎ	ngǐ-bɛɛ.í	his rice
11.	nj̀é	ngǐnj̀é	his mother
12.	njombǒ	ngǐyòmbǒ.í	his hair
13.	bɛlɛ	ngǐ-bɛlɛ.í	his trousers
14.	ngó	ngǐwó.í	his voice
15.	kpukɔ̌	ngǐ-gbukɔ.í	his bed

F. 'Possess' the following with bí or bî.

1.	gbanyâ	bî-gbanyɛ.í	your pliers
2.	ndɔɔ̌	bî-lɔɔ.í	your wine
3.	ngɔ̂	bíngɔ̂	your elder brother

4.	kaló	bî-galo.í	your basin
5.	ngú.lɔ	bî-wu.lɛ.í	your oil
6.	mɔtó	bî-mɔto.í	your car
7.	ǹjé	bíǹjé	your mother
8.	bɔlɔ	bî-bɔlɛ.í	your trousers
9.	gbɛhɛ́	bî-gbɛhɛ.í	your chair
10.	taǎ	bî-lɛɛ.í	your town
11.	ngɔmbǔ	bî-yɔmbu.í	your fire
12.	pû	bî-wu.í	your cave
13.	ndíamɔ	bíndíamɔ.í	your friend
14.	pel.ě	bî-wel.e.í	your road
15.	kaŋá	bî-gaŋa.á	your case

Tests 32, 33, 34 and 35 will show how well this chapter has been mastered.

CHAPTER FIVE

NOMINAL COMPOUNDS AND TONAL LINKING

As described in the chapter on N2 and N3 nouns and the possessive pronouns, when two nouns or a noun and an intransitive verb constitute a nominal compound, the words are linked together by a hyphen indicating a particular tonal pattern, and consonant mutation occurs in the second element.

Observe the tonal source marks of these nouns and the phonetic tones in parentheses.

1.	bɛlɛ	(__)	trousers
2.	gbɛhɛ́	(_¯)	stool
3.	pɛ́l.ɛ	(¯¯)	house
4.	ndomǎ	(_ -)	shirt
5.	pundî	(_\\)	mosquito
6.	kɔ̂w.u	(¯ _)	box
7.	bâ	(\\)	price

and the tones of the form ninǎ (_¯), meaning here 'new'. Now the tone of the units combined.

1. bɛlɛ-nina (____)
2. gbɛhɛ́-nina (_¯¯_)
3. pɛ́l.ɛ-nina (¯¯¯ _)
4. ndomǎ-nina (__¯ _)
5. pundî-nina (_¯ __)
6. kɔ̂w.u-nina (¯ ___)
7. bâ-nina (¯ _ _)

A general set of rules can be formulated as follows.

1) Determine the phonetic tone of the first noun (in the indefinite form)

from the tonal source markings.*

2) If the tone ends low, the first vowel of the word following the hyphen will be low.

3) If the tone ends high, the first vowel of the word following the hyphen will be high. Thus far only the phonetic tone of the element following the hyphen has been determined.

4) If the tonal source mark on the vowel before the hyphen is _̌, then that vowel is low. As in previous tonal combinations, phonetic tone of polarized vowels is determined from right to left. The first vowel after the hyphen is phonetically high, so the phonetic tone of the polarized vowel (marked _̌) will be low. (e.g. ndomǎ-nina (_ _ ‾ _)).

5) If the last or only vowel before the hyphen is marked _̂, the tone of that vowel will be phonetically high, (e.g. pundî-nina (_ ‾ _ _)).

6) Otherwise the phonetic tone of the indefinite form is used on the first element of the compound. (e.g. bɛlɛ-nina (_ _ _ _), gbɛhɛ́-nina (_ ‾ ‾ _), pɛ́l.ɛ-nina (‾ ‾ ‾ _), kɔ̂w.u-nina (‾ _ _ _).

The Use of the Hyphen

The tonal combinations described here and the resultant phonetic tonal patterns are very widespread in Mende. As indicated in the chapter on N2 and N3 possessed nouns, there are a number of sources for the tonal patterns (Noun + Postposition, Noun + Noun, Noun + Intransitive Verb, etc.). The precise grammatical rules which produce this type of tonal combination are certainly not obvious in any type of transcription. For example, the sentence bɛlɛ-woval.ɔ́` kpukɔ̌ma (_ _ _ _ ‾ _ _ ‾), 'The old trousers are on the bed.' does not give the following analytical information in the transcription.

1. The sentence bɛlɛ-woval.ɔ́` kpukɔ̌ma has its grammatical structural source in two sentences: a) bɛlɛl.ɔ́` kpukɔ̌ma, 'The trousers are on the bed.', b) bɛlɛwóvangɔ̀, 'The trousers have become old.' Which has as its source: bɛlɛl.ɔ́` wóvama, 'The trousers are becoming old.' (wóva from ngóva, an intransitive verb meaning 'to become old.').

2. Sentences are changed grammatically by a rule that converts bɛlɛl.ɔ́` wóvama to bɛlɛwóvangɔ̀ and a rule that combines bɛlɛwóvangɔ̀ and bɛlɛl.ɔ́` kpukɔ̌ma into the sentence bɛlɛ-woval.ɔ́` kpukɔ̌ma and thus doing deletes ngɔ̀ and changes the type of tonal connection between bɛlɛ and wóva, e.g. bɛlɛwóva (_ _ ‾ ‾) becomes bɛlɛ-wova (_ _ _ _). At the same time ngóva, 'to become old', has changed classification from its ultimate source as an Intransitive Verb to part of the noun phrase as far as grammatical structure is concerned and is

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*These phonetic tones will not necessarily be used on the first element of the compound, they simply determine the tone of the second element.

functioning in Mende as what we translate as an *adjective*.

The hyphen is used solely as a reminder that some type of grammatical change has taken place. If from reading a sentence (in any type of transcription) you could immediately parse it and review the genesis of the sentence you would not need the hyphen to distinguish *bɛlɛ-wova* (▁▁ ▁▁) from *bɛlɛwóva* (ngɔ̀), (▁▁▔▔).

It is not necessary to become a specialist in the grammar of any language to learn to speak it. There is no native Mende specialist in Mende but most of them speak it quite well. You learned to speak your native language without studying it as do all children learning to speak. On the other hand, the knowledge gained by linguistic analysis can greatly speed up the learning process. Toward the goal of serving the non-linguist with Mende sentences without requiring him to learn the genesis of each sentence, a hyphen has been introduced indicating that *some* grammatical principle has operated. At least, then, it is possible to tell from the product of grammatical rules what the product should sound like.

The Function of the Tonal Change

Tonal change can be considered to mark the domain of the *word*, providing what might be called a *tonal link* between the elements of a compound that unites the two or more elements into a word. Actually the use of 'tonal change' is not completely in harmony with the concept of phonetic tonal interpretation of tonal source marks, but when *ninǎ* (▁▔) 'new' becomes *nina* (▁▁) in *nyahâ-nina* (▁▔▁▁) 'new wife', it does seem like a tonal change.*

Let us examine the tonal link. In general it can be looked upon as the *sharing* of the *tonal unit* *on the last vowel before the hyphen* with the *first vowel after the hyphen*. All the tonal source marks on the part of the word (compound) after the hyphen are deleted. Study the following examples.

1. bɛlɛ
bɛlɛ-nina (▁▁▁▁)
ninǎ

Simply by deleting the tonal source marks on *nina*, the compound *bɛlɛ-nina* has been prepared to be interpreted phonetically as (▁▁▁▁) with the *i* of *nina* low in tone because of the extension of the tonal unit on *bɛlɛ* (no mark) and the *a* of *nina* low because the tonal source mark ˇ has been deleted.

2. gbɛhɛ́
gbɛhɛ́-nina (▁▔▔ ▁)
ninǎ

The *i* of *nina* is high because the high tonal unit on *hɛ́* has been extended (by the use of the hyphen) to *i*. The *a* is low because the normal source marks have been deleted.

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*Phonetic tone (the pitch you hear) and source tone or lexical tone are contrasted in the following discussion.

3. pél.ɛ

pél.ɛ-nina (‾‾‾ _)

ninǎ

The high tonal unit on l.ɛ (which covers the whole word pél.ɛ) is extended to include the i of nina.

4. ndomǎ

ndomǎ-nina (- - ‾ _)

ninǎ

The tonal unit on a of ndomǎ is the marker of tonal polarization. The hyphen, in this case, extends polarization to the first vowel of nina. The phonetic tone (- - ‾ _) comes about in these steps.

a. ndomǎ-ninǎ becomes ndomǎ-nina

(All tonal source markers in the element after the hyphen are deleted.)

b. ndomǎ-nina becomes ndomǎ-nǐna

(The domain of the tonal unit on the last vowel before the hyphen is extended to include the first vowel after the hyphen, the tonal unit being 'vowel tonal polarization'.)

c. ndomǎ-nǐna becomes ndomǎ-nǐna
(.......... _)

Phonetic tone on words containing ˇ is determined from right to left. The a of nǐna is unmarked and therefore low (_).

d. ndomǎ-nǐna becomes ndomǎ-nina
(........ _) (.... ‾ _)

The polarized vowel of the segment nǐ becomes a high tone because it precedes a low tone.

e. ndomǎ-nina becomes ndomǎ-nina
(.... ‾ _) (... _ ‾ _)

The polarized vowel ǎ becomes a phonetically low vowel because it precedes ǐ which is phonetically high. The o which is unmarked is a low vowel. Since all tone after the hyphen is predictable by the tonal source markings on the first element, tone is not marked after the hyphen.

5. pundî

pundî-nina (- ‾ - -)

ninǎ

There are single (non-compounded) words in Mende where two vowels share the tonal unit ^, e.g. kɔ̂w.u (‾ -). Just as ɔ and u share the tonal source marker ^̲ so do the i of pundî and the i of nina.

6. kɔ̂w.u
   kɔ̂w.u-nina (‾ ▁ ▁ ▁)
   nině

Just as a ^̲ in fêlama (‾ ▁ ▁) 'junction', determines the tone of three vowels, the hyphen extends the domain of the ^̲ in kɔ̂w.u to nina.

7. bâ
   bâ-nina (‾ ▁ ▁)
   nině

With the ^̲ marker over a single vowel (â), the phonetic tone is (╲) when the word is in isolation. When, however, the tonal unit ^̲ has a domain of two or more vowels, the falling tone is distributed among the two or more vowels. Here the domain of the tonal source mark ^̲ is extended to the i of nina by the power of the hyphen, giving the phonetic tones (‾ ▁).

If a person were to set out to transcribe Mende using the tonal source markings provided here he would likely transcribe the list of seven compound words as follows:

1. bɛ̀lɛ-nìna
2. gbɛ̀hɛ́-nîna
3. pɛ́l.ɛ́-nîna
4. ndòmǎ-nîna
5. pùndî-nìna
6. kɔ̂w.u-nìna
7. bâ-nìna

The unmarked vowels are low as described before and the i's of nina marked ^̲ do in fact adequately describe the phonetic tonal facts. This does not, however, take into account the nature of the genesis of the tonal pattern of the compound, i.e. that of being an extension of the last or only tonal unit of the preceding word. In this course, nothing after the hyphen has tonal source markings, (except definite .í etc.) since the tone of the entire 'word' can be properly interpreted from the marking on the element that comes before the first hyphen. The 'explanation' of what happens may or may not be a useful tool in helping the student to produce the proper tones. The most useful rule for learning purposes might be:

1. If the source tone of the first form is $\begin{bmatrix} x & \acute{x} \\ x & \check{x} \\ \acute{x} & x \end{bmatrix}$

   the tone of the second form is x̂ x, (‾ ▁).

2. If the source tone of the first form is $\begin{bmatrix} \hat{x} & \\ \hat{x} & x \\ x & \hat{x} \\ x & x \end{bmatrix}$

the tone of the second form is x x,(_ _).

The learning of such rules and explanations is not the goal of the students in this course, but rather, one would hope to speak like a Mende man. The following exercises will help you attain the latter goal.

Drill: Nominal Compounds

To perform these drills it is necessary to know the tonal source markings of the nouns involved. In the following drill you will be given two indefinite nouns in the left-hand column. The teacher is to read these and the student will combine them to form noun compounds with a hyphen. The first noun should be the first element of the compound. Consonant mutation occurs with consonants that mutate.

1.	fɛfɛ̌	wind		
	kulǎ	cloth	fɛfɛ̌-gula	sail
2.	nikǎ	cow		
	fóma	whip	nikǎ-voma	cow whip
3.	bɛɛ́si	pig		
	huǎ	meat	bɛɛ́si-hua	pork
4.	njaǎ	water		
	bôla	cup	njaǎ-bola	water cup
5.	huǎ	game (meat)		
	bambî	snare	huǎ-bambi	snare for game
6.	bɔndɔ́	okra		
	hákpa	sauce	bɔndɔ́-hakpa	okra sauce
7.	mahǎ	chief		
	búl.u	horn	mahǎ-bul.u	horn that announces the chief
8.	nyɛ́	fish		
	fáji	bucket	nyɛ́-vaji	fish bucket
9.	njowǒ	potato		
	fále	sprout	njowǒ-vale	potato sprout
10.	fandě	cotton		
	ndomǎ	shirt	fandě-loma	cotton shirt
11.	mbaǎ	rice		
	fɛɛ̌	pot	mbaǎ-vɛɛ	rice pot
12.	kɔ́	war		
	fula	village	kɔ́-vula	fortified village
13.	fúl.u	living creature		
	han.ǐ	thing	fúl.u-han.i	living thing

14.	ndɔɔ̌	wine		
	kpéngi	sediment	ndɔɔ̌-gbengi	wine sediment
15.	mbaǎ	rice		
	hapě	root	mbaǎ-hape	rice plant root
16.	hinî	husband		
	mɔ̀	person	hinî-mɔ	one who has a husband
17.	hóta	guest		
	mɔ̀	person	hóta-mɔ	one who has a guest
18.	nikǎ	cow		
	huǎ	meat	nikǎ-hua	beef
19.	hâkɛ	sin		
	hindâ	matter	hâkɛ-hinda	sinful business
20.	hál.e	medicine		
	pɛ́l.ɛ	house	hál.e-wɛl.ɛ	hospital
21.	kóni	ax		
	nguǔ	head	kóni-wuu	ax blade
22.	soso	susu		
	nikîl.i	groundnut	soso-nikil.i	susu groundnut
23.	ndúvu	raffia		
	ngál.a	mat	ndúvu-yal.a	raffia mat
24.	hɔwɔ	a ceremony		
	lɛw.ɛ	rice dough cakes	hɔwɔ-lɛw.ɛ	ceremonial cakes
25.	sôda	NaOH		
	mbawâ	soap	sôda-bawa	domestic lye soap
26.	kɔ́	war		
	sɔ́li	spear	kɔ́-jɔli	fighting spear
27.	mɛndé	metal		
	mitǎ	spoon	mɛndé-mita	domestic metal spoon
28.	mahǎ	chief		
	mbomǎ	hammock	mahǎ-boma	chief carrying hammock
29.	huǎ	game (edible)		
	pel.ě	road	huǎ-wel.e	game trail
30.	pu	English		
	ndɔɔ̌	wine	pu-lɔɔ	whiskey, gin, etc.
31.	jambá	opiate		
	ndáw.a	leaf	jambá-law.a	marijuana

32.	hál.e	medicine		
	mɔ̀	person	hál.e-mɔ	one who has medicine, doctor
33.	mbal.ǎ	sheep		
	huǎ	meat	mbal.ǎ-hua	lamb, mutton
34.	gɔmá	minister bird		
	ndó	child	gɔmá-lo	chick of the minister bird
35.	ngú.lɔ	oil		
	kpéngi	sediment	ngú.lɔ-gbengi	oil sediment
36.	gɔɔ̂tɔ	rope		
	gbahá	bridge	gɔɔ̂tɔ-gbaha	rope bridge
37.	nyahâ	woman		
	gbɛhɛ́	stool	nyahâ-gbɛhɛ	a stool for a woman
38.	fu.lâ	twin		
	toôlo	kola nut	fu.lâ-loolo	twin kola nut
39.	fel.ě	trade		
	han.ǐ	thing	fel.ě-han.i	trade goods
40.	njaǎ	water		
	fɛɛ̌	pot	njaǎ-vɛɛ	water pot
41.	tangǎ	cassava		
	fále	sprout	tangǎ-vale	cassava sprout
42.	fandě	cotton		
	bɛlɛ	trousers	fandě-bɛlɛ	cotton trousers
43.	sɛ́l.ɛ	banana		
	dágba	core	sɛ́l.ɛ-dagba	banana heart
44.	ndopô	child		
	bɛlɛ	trousers	ndopô-bɛlɛ	trousers for a child
45.	kɔfí	coffee		
	bôla	cup	kɔfí-bola	coffee cup
46.	hiîndo	man		
	bɔlɔ	hat	hiîndo-bɔlɔ	hat for a man
47.	nyɛ́	fish		
	bâ	value	nyɛ́-ba	price of the fish
48.	ndil.î	fly		
	fóma	whip	ndil.î-voma	fly swatter
49.	tɔ́kpɔ	palm		
	fɔfɔ	grub	tɔ́kpɔ-vɔfɔ	edible palm beetle

50.	ngɔmbǔ	fire		
	fofô	light	ngɔmbǔ-vofo	fire light
51.	ngúl.u	wood		
	gbɛhɛ́	stool	ngúl.u-gbɛhɛ	wooden stool
52.	ngúl.u			
	kaŋá	box	ngúl.u-gaŋa	wooden chest
53.	ngúl.u			
	kpakal.i	tripod chair	ngúl.u-gbakal.i	wooden tripod chair
54.	ngúl.u			
	kpáw.u	bridge	ngúl.u-gbaw.u	wooden bridge
55.	ngúl.u			
	kpɛgbɛ	comb	ngúl.u-gbɛgbɛ	wooden comb
56.	ngúl.u			
	kpukɔ̌	bed	ngúl.u-gbukɔ	wooden bed
57.	pu	English		
	yabâsi	onion	pu-yabasi	English onion
58.	pu			
	mitǎ	spoon	pu-mita	imported spoon
59.	pu			
	ngú.lɔ	oil	pu-wu.lɔ	imported oils
60.	pu			
	ndól.i	fishing hook	pu-lol.i	imported fishing hooks
61.	fu.lâ	twin		
	nikîl.i	groundnut	fu.lâ-nikil.i	twin groundnut
62.	kɔlǔ	iron		
	gbanyâ	pliers	kɔlǔ-gbanya	iron pliers
63.	nyɔɔ̌	corn		
	hapě	root	nyɔɔ̌-hape	corn root
64.	mbaǎ	rice		
	híw.i	heap	mbaǎ-hiw.i	pile of rice
65.	hóta	guest		
	pɛ́l.ɛ	house	hóta-wɛl.ɛ	house for a guest
66.	hɔ́na	witchcraft		
	mɔ̀	person	hɔ́na-mɔ	person possessing witchcraft
67.	njé	goat		
	huǎ	meat	njé-hua	goat meat

68.	pɛ́l.ɛ jiw.î	house key	pɛ́l.ɛ-jiw.i	key for the house
69.	nduwɔ̌ jɔwɔ́	slave chain	nduwɔ̌-jɔwɔ	slave chain
70.	nyahâ bɔlɔ	woman hat	nyahâ-bɔlɔ	hat for a woman
71.	nɔ́nɔ bôla	milk cup	nɔ́nɔ-bola	milk cup
72.	bɛɛ́si kɔlɔ̂	pig skin	bɛɛ́si-gɔlɔ	pig skin
73.	kpáma bɛlɛ	suspenders trousers	kpáma-bɛlɛ	trousers that have suspenders
74.	dɔ̂w.u ngáw.u	duck egg	dɔ̂w.u-yaw.u	duck egg
75.	fandɛ̌ kulǎ	cotton cloth	fandɛ̌-gula	cotton cloth
76.	nyahâ fúko	woman head pad	nyahâ-vuko	the size of head pad used by women
77.	pu miîji	English needle	pu-miiji	imported needle (for fine work)
78.	pu nikîl.i	groundnut	pu-nikil.i	cashew nut
79.	kɔ́ fɛlɛ̂	war winnowing fan	kɔ́-vɛlɛ	fighting shield
80.	hɛ́mu fofô	torch light	hɛ́mu-vofo	torch light
81.	ŋɔnǐ bambî	bird snare	ŋɔnǐ-bambi	bird snare
82.	mbaǎ kpitǐ	rice grass	mbaǎ-gbiti	rice straw
83.	ngúl.u kpɔ́kpɔ	wood hammer	ngúl.u-gbɔkpɔ	wooden mallet
84.	mbaǎ kpéte	rice swamp	mbaǎ-gbete	part of the swamp where rice is grown
85.	kɔlǔ kpɛgbɛ	iron comb	kɔlǔ-gbɛgbɛ	aluminum comb

86.	ngɔmbǔ	fire		
	kɔw.ǔ	firewood	ngɔmbǔ-gɔw.u	wood for the fire
87.	kpitǐ	grass		
	ngál.a	mat	kpitǐ-yal.a	grass mat

(Try Tests 36 and 37.)

The Meaning of Hyphenated Compounds

The first elements of the compounds given above might be called adjectives by some people because they 'modify' or 'specify' something about the nouns that follow. Each item that occupies the position before the hyphen (going from left to right) is a noun. The second noun is composed of or built of the substance named by the first noun.

kɔlǔ-gbɛgbɛ	metal comb (aluminum)
ngúl.u-gbɔkpɔ	wooden hammer
fandě-loma	cotton shirt
bɛɛ́si-hua	pig meat, pork

The first noun is the type of thing that the second noun is used on, by or for.

nikǎ-voma	cow whip (a whip used on a cow)
njaǎ-bola	water cup (a cup used for water)
hiîndo-gbɛhɛ	a chair used by a man
mbaǎ-vɛɛ	a pot used for carrying, storing, or cooking rice

The first noun tells the type, species or style of the second.

mɛndé-nikil.i	Mende groundnut
pu-mita	English (imported) spoon

Other types of meaning could be mentioned, but the general idea is the same -- the *head* of the noun compound is the second element and the first noun *modifies* or specifies a particular *type* or *kind of* the second noun. *A woman's hat* is a translation of *nyahâ-bɔlɔ*, but the English phrase *a woman's hat* is ambiguous in English. It means a hat possessed by a woman and a hat of the type worn by a woman. The hat hanging on a hook in a cloak room is called *a woman's hat* (*some* woman's hat) because it belongs to some unidentified woman. A shocking lavender felt bowler with a purple band and red feather is *a woman's hat* in the sense that it is the kind of hat a woman might wear rather than one a man might wear. If it is displayed in a store and not actually owned by a woman we still call it *a woman's hat* because it is what a woman might wear. It is only this latter sense that *nyahâ-bɔlɔ* is correctly translated as *a woman's hat*. It is suggested that the student spend some time studying the resultant compound meanings. Many are different from what one might think.

CHAPTER SIX

PLURALS, yeé, ná and jí

The suffix ngà.a is affixed to the indefinite form of nouns and makes them plural. It is used when the items in question are not possessed by anyone or anything. It refers to things in a very general way such as books in Books are nice.

The suffix is usually long and is written with a period between the vowels nga.a indicating length the same way length is indicated when l is deleted from pɛ́l.ɛ 'house': pɛ́.ɛ.

The tone of the indefinite is not difficult; it is simply attached and the tonal mapping marks are interpreted in the normal way.

gbɛhɛ́ngà.a (– ‾ _ _)	benches
ndomǎngà.a (_ ‾ _ _)	shirts
pɛ́l.ɛngà.a (‾ ‾ _ _)	houses
bɛlɛngà.a (_ _ _ _)	trousers
pundîngà.a (– ‾ _ _)	mosquitoes

(à is the low pitch component of ^)

mbûngà.a (‾ _ _)	owls
kɔ̂w.ungà.a (‾ _ _ _)	boxes

Put the following nouns into the indefinite plural form.

1.	bûku	bûkungà.a	books
2.	kual.ǎ	kual.ǎngà.a	monkeys
3.	ŋɔnǐ	ŋɔnǐngà.a	birds
4.	kpandɛ̂	kpandɛ̂ngà.a	guns

5.	hinî	hinîngà.a	husbands
6.	ngáw.u	ngáw.ungà.a	eggs
7.	mitǎ	mitǎngà.a	spoons
8.	njow.ǒ	njow.ǒngà.a	potatoes
9.	sawa	sawangà.a	laws
10.	njé	njéngà.a	goats
11.	gbɛhɛ́	gbɛhɛ́ngà.a	stools
12.	ndomǎ	ndomǎngà.a	shirts
13.	kaŋá	kaŋángà.a	boxes
14.	kpa.ǎ	kpa.ǎngà.a	farms

Test 38 covers indefinite plural forms.

The Definite Plural Form

The suffix sià affixed to the definite form of a noun makes that noun plural. The definite form is a vowel marked ́ when it occurs finally. Otherwise the .í (or .v́) becomes .î or .v̂. The phonetic tonal sequence of sià is (▬ ▂) here, since the vowels i and à share the tonal unit marked on .î. Thus the plural of ŋɔnǐ 'bird' is ŋɔnǐ.îsià (▂▂▔ ▬▂). (The ̀ marked on à of sià prevents the 'power' of ̂ from being further extended.) Nouns whose definite must be formed with .v́ also form the definite with .v̂ and sià. (These nouns are marked vob in the lexicon.) Nouns which may form the definite with .v́ or .í are most often found in the definite plural form with .î.

The plural of English rice, rices, means kinds of rice. There is no similar meaning in Mende. Nouns that cannot be counted in Mende do not have a definite plural form. Generally, things you cannot count in English cannot be counted in Mende. Beware of words like njaǎ 'water' or 'river'. The form njɛɛ̌.îsià means 'rivers' but not 'waters' and ŋɔnǐ.îsià 'birds' but ŋɔnǐ 'oysters'. The biggest problem encountered in forming definite plural forms are the vowel assimilation changes and the particular tonal interpretation of the tonal mapping symbols of nouns in the formation of the definite form.

Here are some drills. Form the definite plural forms of these indefinite nouns.

Drill I.

1.	fula	fulɛ.îsià	villages
2.	mawá	mawɛ́.îsià	tall palm trees
3.	mitǎ	mitɛ̌.îsià	spoons

4.	njow.ǒ	njow.ǒ.îsià	potatoes
5.	ngolǒ	ngolě.îsià	chimpanzees
6.	ndɔ́ndɔ	ndɔ́ndɔ.îsià	millipedes
7.	nɔtɔ	nɔtɔ.îsià	clams
8.	kɔl.ɔ̌	kɔl.ɛ̌.îsià	books
9.	dɔ̂w.u	dɔ̂w.i.îsià	ducks
10.	hél.e	hél.e.îsià	elephants

Drill II.

1.	ndámba	ndámbɛ.îsià	crocodiles
2.	bɛlɛ	bɛlɛ.îsià	trousers
3.	mbû	mbû.îsià	owls
4.	gil.î	gil.î.îsià	white ants
5.	kpa.ǎ	kpa.ǎ.âsià	farms
6.	ndovǒ	ndovǒ.îsià	frogs
7.	saw.a	saw.ɛ.îsià	laws
8.	njé	njé.îsià	goats
9.	hél.e	hél.ɛ.îsià	elephants
10.	gbɛhɛ́	gbɛhɛ́.îsià	stools

Drill III.

1.	kâl.i	kâl.i.îsià	shoes
2.	kal.ǐ	kal.ǐ.îsià	snakes
3.	pû	pû.îsià	caves
4.	bɔlɔ	bɔlɛ.îsià	hats
5.	pel.ě	pel.ě.îsià	roads
6.	kokó	kokó.îsià	kokoyams
7.	mɛmɛ	mɛmɛ.îsià	mirrors
8.	mitǎ	mitɛ̌.îsià	spoons

9.	nyɛ́	nyɛ́.îsià	fish
10.	pundî	pundî.îsià	mosquitoes

Drill IV.

1.	ŋɔnǐ	ŋɔnǐ.îsià	birds
2.	nyahâ	nyahɛ̂.îsià	wives
3.	ngúl.u	ngúl.i.îsià	trees
4.	pɛ́l ɛ	pɛ́l.ɛ.îsià	houses
5.	kɔ̂w.u	kɔ̂w.i.îsià	boxes
6.	kɔl.ɔ̌	kɔl.ɛ̌.îsià	books
7.	nyɛ́	nyɛ́.îsià	fish
8.	ndomǎ	ndomɛ̌.îsià	shirts
9.	mbalǎ	mbalɛ̌.îsià	sheep
10.	njow.ǒ	njow.ǒ.îsià	potatoes

Drill V.

1.	ngól.i	ngól.i.îsià	ears
2.	ngetê	ngetê.îsià	pestles
3.	njasǎ	njasɛ̌.îsià	palm fronds
4.	mbówa	mbówɛ.îsià	knives
5.	mbondâ	mbondɛ̂.îsià	relatives
6.	ndáw.a	ndáw.ɛ.îsià	leaves
7.	kpa.ǎ	kpa.ǎ.âsià	farms
8.	kpambî	kpambî.îsià	tracks
9.	bubá	bubɛ́.îsià	tunics
10.	kaŋá	kaŋá.âsià	boxes

Test number 39 covers the preceding.

The Demonstrative Suffixes

The demonstratives jí 'this' and ná 'that' attach directly onto the .í (definite marker) of a definite noun. They do nothing to the tone and cause no other complications. The noun must be definite and both jí and ná can be used to particularize nouns for emphasis, often in translation for English the, used in reference to something already mentioned. When jí or ná is attached to the definite marker .í, the definite marker still has the tone (¯). When the definite plural suffix sià is added onto jí ná (or .í), the mark on the vowel preceding sià is changed from ´ to ^.

Example:

mahǎ	>	mahɛ̌.í	>	mahɛ̌.îsià (_ _ ¯ - _)
mahɛ̌.í	>	mahɛ̌.íjí	>	mahɛ̌.íjîsià (_ _ ¯ ¯ - _)
mahɛ.í	>	mahɛ̌.íná	>	mahɛ̌.ínâsià (_ _ ¯ ¯ - _)

The following drills are substitution drills which use jí, ná and various indefinite nouns as cues.

Drill VI.

bûku.íjí

1.	ná	bûku.íná	that book
2.	bɔlɔ	bɔlɛ.íná	that hat
3.	kâl.i	kâl.i.íná	that hoe
4.	jí	kâl.i.íjí	this hoe
5.	núm.u	núm.u.íjí	this person
6.	ná	núm.u.íná	that person
7.	kulǎ	kulɛ̌.íná	that cloth
8.	jí	kulɛ̌.íjí	this cloth
9.	jiw.î	jiw.î.íjí	this key
10.	mahǎ	mahɛ̌.íjí	this chief
11.	bûku	bûku.íjí	this book

Drill VII.

gbɛhɛ́.íná this stool

1.	bɛlɛ	bɛlɛ.íná	that pair of trousers
2.	kal.ǐ	kal.ǐ.íná	that snake
3.	jí	kal.ǐ.íjí	this snake

4. ndomǎ	ndomɛ̌.íjí	this shirt
5. ná	ndomɛ̌.íná	that shirt
6. ηɔnǐ	ηɔnǐ.íná	that bird
7. kaηá	kaηá.áná	that box
8. jí	kaηá.ájí	this box
9. mitǎ	mitɛ̌.íjí	this spoon
10. ná	mitɛ̌.íná	that spoon

Drill VIII.

ndámbɛ.íjí

1. ná	ndámbɛ.íná	that crocodile
2. njow.ǒ	njow.ǒ.íná	that potato
3. ngúl.u	ngúl.i.íná	that tree
4. jí	ngúl.i.íjí	this tree
5. jiw.î	jiw.î.íjí	this key
6. ná	jiw.î.íná	that key
7. pέl.ɛ	pέl.ɛ.íná	that house
8. bôla	bôlɛ.íná	that cup
9. jí	bôlɛ.íjí	this chip
10. ndámba	ndámbɛ.íjí	this crocodile

The demonstrative suffixes have plural forms too. The form is the definite plural sià and follows the demonstrative immediately. Noun + Definite + Demonstrative + Plural.

In the following drill you will be given a noun in some form, indefinite, definite, indefinite plural, definite plural, or definite with demonstrative. Whatever the noun is, give it a definite demonstrative plural, jîsia 'these'. Remember to change the tone mark of jí ná and .í to jî nâ and .î when sià follows.

Drill IX.

1. ηɔnǐ.í	ηɔnǐ.íjîsià	these birds
2. pέl.ɛ.îsià	pέl.ɛíjîsià	these houses
3. bûku	bûku.íjîsià	these books

4.	bɛlɛngà.a	bɛlɛ.íjîsià	these trousers
5.	gil.î.í	gil.î.íjîsià	these white ants
6.	gbɛhɛ́ngà.a	gbɛhɛ́.íjîsià	these stools
7.	ndɔ́ndɔ	ndɔ́ndɔ.íjîsià	these millipedes
8.	kual.ǎ	kual.ɛ̌.íjîsià	these monkeys
9.	kpandɛ̂.íjí	kpandɛ̂.íjîsià	these guns
10.	ndomɛ̌.í	ndomɛ̌.íjîsià	these shirts

Drill X. Form definite demonstrative plurals in nâsià.

1.	kɔ̂w.u	kɔ̂w.i.ínâsià	those boxes
2.	mitǎ	mitɛ̌.ínâsià	those spoons
3.	njow.ǒ	njow.ǒ.ínâsià	those potatoes
4.	fulɛ.í	fulɛ.ínâsià	those villages
5.	nyɛ́	nyɛ́.ínâsià	those fish
6.	ngúl.u	ngúl.i.ínâsià	those trees
7.	ndáw.ɛ.í	ndáw.ɛ.ínâsià	those leaves
8.	njasǎ	njasɛ̌.ínâsià	those palm fronds
9.	pel.ě.í	pel.ě.ínâsià	those roads
10.	kokó	kokó.ínâsià	those kokoyams

Test number 40 will show how well the demonstratives are mastered.

The yeé Definite Form

The yeé form is used to indicate that an item has been mentioned recently in the discussion and for particularization. It conveys the same type of specification or definiteness as do the possessive pronouns and the two are never used together. It occurs before the nominal phrase and requires the definite marker .v́ or .í on the end of the nominal phrase. Its use does not affect the tonal interpretation of the nominal unit (i.e. does not alter the phonetic tone) and it does not cause consonant mutation. It has the meaning of very definite citation and is used to indicate that the noun that it occurs in front of is the same noun that was mentioned previously. Besides the definite suffixes, the demonstratives and the definite plurals may be used with the yeé form. 'The' is a possible translation of yeé. Another is 'of all: ...(this one)', e.g. yeéfɔ̀tó.í, 'of all the pictures around, this one'.

Drill XI. Add yeé to the following indefinite nouns and perform all the necessary operations.

1.	fɔtó	yeéfɔ̀tó.í	the photo
2.	fɛɛ̌	yeéfɛ̀ɛ̌.í	the pot
3.	hagbě	yeéhàgbě.í	the rabbit
4.	kal.ǐ	yeékàl.ǐ.í	the snake
5.	kpolǐ	yeékpòlǐ.í	the worm
6.	mbɛtɛ̌	yeémbɛ̀tɛ̌.í	the watch tower
7.	hapě	yeéhàpě.í	the root
8.	ngukpě	yeéngùkpě.í	the stump
9.	ngúl.u	yeéngúl.i.í	the tree
10.	fáji	yeéfáji.í	the bucket
11.	hál.e	yeéhál.e.í	the medicine
12.	kóni	yeékóni.í	the ax
13.	kpúnyɛ	yeékpúnyɛ.í	the charcoal
14.	ndól.i	yeéndól.i.í	the hook
15.	sál.e	yeésál.e.í	the parable

Drill XII. Add yeé as before.

1.	bɛlɛ	yeébɛ̀lɛ.í	the trousers
2.	gboji	yeégbòji.í	the plum
3.	mɛmɛ	yeémɛ̀mɛ.í	the mirror
4.	kpɛnî	yeékpɛ̀nî.í	the lizard
5.	mbimbî	yeémbìmbî.í	the dirt pile
6.	jiw.î	yeéjìw.î.í	the key
7.	fɛlɛ̂	yeéfɛ̀lɛ̂.í	the winnowing fan
8.	pujɛ	yeépùjɛ.í	the pepper
9.	mɔl.î	yeémɔ̀l.î.í	the question
10.	pundî	yeépùndî.í	the mosquito

11.	tî	yeétî.í	the island
12.	vivî	yeévìvî.í	the storm
13.	kpol.ǒ	yeékpòl.ě.í	the salt
14.	ngolǒ	yeéngòlě.í	the chimpanzee
15.	bɔndɔ́	yeébɔ̀ndɛ́.í	the okra

Drill XIII. Add yeé as before.

1.	gɔɔ̂tɔ	yeégɔ̀ɔ̂tɔ.í	the rope
2.	jɔwɔ́	yeéjɔ̀wɔ́.í	the chain
3.	kɔl.ɔ̌	yeékɔ̀lɛ̌.í	the book
4.	bɔlɔ	yeébɔ̀lɛ.í	the hat
5.	búl.u	yeébúl.i.í	the trumpet
6.	pɔ̂l.ɔ	yeépɔ̂l.ɛ.í	the mud
7.	dɔ̂w.u	yeédɔ̂w.i.í	the duck
8.	bônga	yeébôngɛ.í	the bonga (species fish)
9.	ngulû	yeéngùlî.í	the cobra
10.	ba.lâ	yeébà.lɛ̂.í	the basket
11.	jagba	yeéjàgbɛ.í	the basin
12.	ndá.wa	yeéndáw.ɛ.í	the leaf
13.	pɛ́l.ɛ	yeépɛ́l.ɛ.í	the house
14.	ngíye	yeéngíye.í	the hill
15.	kúgbe	yeékúgbe.í	the hired farmers

Drill XIV. Add yeé and jí.

1.	fále	yeéfále.íjí	this sprout
2.	kɛ́nyɛ	yeékɛ́nyɛ.íjí	this nation
3.	bambî	yeébàmbî.íjí	this snare
4.	kɔwɔ	yeékɔ̀wɛ.íjí	this log
5.	kpambî	yeékpàmbî.íjí	this line

6.	mini	yeémìni.íjí	this bead
7.	foni	yeéfòni.íjí	this elephant grass
8.	sɔ́li	yeésɔ́li.íjí	this spear
9.	nduwɔ̌	yeéndùwɔ̌.íjí	this slave
10.	kpitǐ	yeékpìtǐ.íjí	this grass
11.	bâ	yeébâ.ájí	this price
12.	ndapǐ	yeéndàpǐ.íjí	this fight
13.	ndáw.a	yeéndáw.ɛ.íjí	this leaf
14.	kpɛgbɛ	yeékpɛ̀gbɛ.íjí	this comb
15.	njɛpɛ̌	yeénjɛ̀pɛ̌.íjí	this talk

Drill XV. Add yeé and ná.

1.	kɔ́ndɔ	yeékɔ́ndɛ.íná	that noon meal
2.	ngáwu	yeéngáwi.íná	that egg
3.	tɔl.û	yeétɔ̀lî.íná	that palm nut
4.	bafa	yeébàfɛ.íná	that hut
5.	fáha	yeéfáhɛ.íná	that crowd
6.	mawá	yeémàwɛ́.íná	that palm tree
7.	mbaǎ	yeémbɛ̀ɛ̌.íná	that rice
8.	tól.o	yeétól.o.íná	that leech
9.	gbókito	yeégbókito.íná	that sandal
10.	ngú.lɔ	yeéngú.lɛ.íná	that oil
11.	mbalǔ	yeémbàlǔ.íná	that cane
12.	piw.ikpâ	yeépìw.ikpâ.áná	that porcupine
13.	pel.ě	yeépèl.ě.íná	that road
14.	hóta	yeéhótɛ.íná	that guest
15.	jakó	yeéjàkó.íná	that monkey

Drill XVI. Add yeé and sià to the following forms and perform all other necessary operations.

1.	ndopô	yeéndòpô.îsià	the boys
2.	bɔlɛ.í	yeébɔ̀lɛ.îsià	the hats
3.	nyɛ́.íná	yeényɛ́.ínâsià	*those* fish
4.	fɔfɔ	yeéfɔ̀fɔ.îsià	the grubs
5.	dɔ̂w.u	yeédɔ̂w.i.îsià	the ducks
6.	pupû.íjí	yeépùpû.íjîsià	*these* ants
7.	núm.u.íná	yeénúm.u.ínâsià	*those* persons
8.	tɔw.ɛ.í	yeétɔ̀w.ɛ.îsià	the beans
9.	kol.ǒ	yeékòl.ě.îsià	the embers
10.	pundî	yeépùndî.îsià	the mosquitoes
11.	ngal.î.íná	yeéngàl.î.ínâsià	*those* thorns
12.	kpandɛ̂.íjí	yeékpàndɛ̂.íjîsià	*these* guns
13.	njal.ɛ̌.íná	yeénjàl.ɛ̌.ínâsià	*those* leopards
14.	gboji	yeégbòji.îsià	the plums
15.	kpakal.i.íjí	yeékpàkal.i.íjîsià	*these* tripod chairs

The yeé Nominal Substitute

"Which do you want, the iron hammer or the wooden mallet?"

"The iron one."

Which do you want the *kɔlǔ-gbɔkpɔ.í* or the *ngúl.u-gbɔkpɔ.í*? The iron one, *kɔlǔ-yee.é*. The form *yeé* (or *geé*) can be substituted for any 'head' of a Nominal compound. It is usually translated as the "________ one", *mɛndé-yee.é*, "the Mende one". The *yeé* form cannot be used originally as the "head" of a nominal construction but to be sensible, meaningful, or even acceptable to a Mende speaker, the *yeé* must *replace* a noun.

Tonally, the *yeé* behaves as the noun it replaces. The first *e* of *yeé* shares the tonal unit governing the last vowel before the hyphen. The definite form for *yeé* is *.é* and is always used with *yeé* after a hyphen.

Drill XVII. In the following drills substitute *yeé* for the second noun.

1.	kpitǐ-yal.ɛ.í	grass mat
	kpitǐ-yee.é	the grass one

2.	pu-miiji.í	imported needle
	pu-yee.é	the imported one
3.	nyahâ-vuko.í	headpad for a woman
	nyahâ-yee.é	the one for a woman
4.	nɔ́nɔ-bolɛ.í	cup for milk
	nɔnɔ-yee.é	the one for milk
5.	fandě-gulɛ.í	cotton cloth
	fandě-yee.é	the cotton one
6.	njaǎ-vɛɛ.îsià	water pots
	njaǎ-yee.êsià	the ones for water
7.	tangǎ-vale.îsià	cassava sprouts
	tangǎ-yee.êsià	the cassava ones
8.	gɔɔ̂tɔ-gbahɛ.íjí	this rope bridge
	gɔɔ̂tɔ-yee.éjí	this rope one
9.	huǎ-wel.e.íná	that game trail
	huǎ-yee.éná	that one for game
10.	mɛndé-mitɛ.îsià	Mende spoons
	mɛndé-yee.êsià	the Mende ones
11.	kɔ́-jɔli.ínâsià	those war spears
	kɔ́-yee.énâsià	those war ones
12.	mahǎ-bomɛ.í	hammock for the chief
	mahǎ-yee.é	the one for the chief
13.	mbaǎ-hape.í	rice root
	mbaǎ-yee.é	the rice one
14.	yeémbàǎ-vɛɛ.íjîsià	these rice pots
	yeémbàǎ-yee.éjîsià	these rice ones
15.	yeéfàndě-lomɛ.íjîsià	these cotton shirts
	yeéfàndě-yee.éjîsià	these cotton ones

16.	kɔ́-vulɛ.í	fortified village
	kɔ́-yee.é	the fortified one
17.	yeényɛ́-vaji.ínâsià	these fish buckets
	yeényɛ́-yee.énâsià	these fish ones
18.	yeédɔ̂w.u-yawi.íjîsià	these duck eggs
	yeédɔ̂w.u-yee.éjîsià	these duck ones
19.	yeékpáma-bɛlɛ.ínâsià	those trousers with suspenders
	yeékpáma-yee.énâsià	those which have suspenders
20.	yeéfàndě-bɛlɛ.íjîsià	these cotton trousers
	yeéfàndě-yee.éjîsià	these cotton ones
21.	ŋɔnǐ-bambi.íjí	this bird snare
	ŋɔnǐ-yee.éjí	this one for birds
22.	ngúl.u-gbɛgbɛ.íná	that wooden comb
	ngúl.u-yee.éná	that wooden one
23.	yeépù-mitɛ.íjîsià	these imported spoons
	yeépù-yee.éjîsià	these imported ones
24.	yeékɔ̀lǔ-gbanyɛ.ínâsià	those iron pliers
	yeékɔ̀lǔ-gbanyɛ.ínâsià	those iron ones
25.	yeépâni-wɛl.ɛ.íjîsià	these corrugated iron roof houses
	yeépâni-yee.éjîsià	these corrugated iron ones
26.	yeéhàl.a-num.u.í	the first person
	yeéhàl.a-yee.é	the first one
27.	yeénjòw.ǒ-gba.a.áná	that potato farm
	yeénjòw.ǒ-yee.éná	that potato one
28.	yeélɛ̀w.ɛ-bɛɛ.íná	that ceremonial rice
	yeélɛ̀w.ɛ-yee.éná	that ceremonial one
29.	yeékál.a-nyɛ.íjîsià	these boney fish
	yeékál.a-yee.éjîsià	these boney ones

Tests 40 and 41 cover the yeé forms and Test 42 covers the entire chapter.

CHAPTER SEVEN

ANIMATE NOUN POSSESSORS AND COMPOUNDS

Animate nouns are those which are the names of living creatures: animals and people. These possessors fit into the same kind of possessive constructions as the possessive pronouns. Following the implication of the traditional term pronoun (words which 'stand for' nouns), we could consider that the pronominal constructions are derived from nominal possessive constructions, e.g. in mahɛ̌.î-wɛlɛ.í > ngǐ-wɛlɛ.í, 'the chief's house', 'his', ngǐ stands for mahɛ̌.î. And in the same way, body parts can be possessed by nouns and the possessive pronouns, e.g. mahɛ̌.îlokǒ.í > ngǐlokǒ.í, 'the chief's hand', 'his hand'. This matter becomes complicated when the noun in the second position is an N2 noun since some N2 nouns may also be N1 nouns.

The word for 'honey' and the word for 'honey bee' are the same in Mende, kɔ́mi. Honey is a word that is N1 and N2. Its N2 possibilities are greatly limited by the fact that the 'body part' relationship can only exist between honey, kɔ́mi and the honey bee, kɔ́mi. The honey is considered to be a secretion of the bee and therefore is N2. Observe the following:

kɔ́mi-gɔmi.í	(‾‾‾ ‾‾)	'bee honey'
kɔ́mi.îgɔ́mi.í	(‾‾‾ ---)	'the bee's honey': that which the bee produces (N2)
kɔ́mi.î-gɔmi.í	(‾‾‾ _ _ -)	'the bee's honey': that which the bee has property rights to (N1)

These three complexes are quite distinctly separate and can be immediately distinguished by Mende speakers. Notice that the possessor is an animate noun.

The compound, kɔ́mi-gɔmi.í (bee honey) is of the type that has been presented and drilled on in the chapter on N1 nominal compounds. The first element of the compound tells the kind or type of the second element. In kɔ́mi.îgɔ́mi.í (the bee's N2 honey), the noun kɔ́mi.î is just like nyá in nyáwùu.í 'my head'. There is no tonal alteration and the second element has consonant mutation if required. This complex is simply a possessive construction involving an N2 form.

Again, all N2 nouns can also be N1 nouns. That is, nyálòkǒ.í 'my hand' and nyâ-loko.í 'my hand' (but neither of those that is attached to my wrists) are both perfectly good forms. The second is not, however, the most plausible of concepts although unusual situations can be developed where the second form seems suitable. There are a few more or less obvious situations where one may have a body part other than his own part which is attached to him.

1.	núm.u.îgál.ɛ.í	'the person's own bone'
	núm.u.î-galɛ.í	'the person's bone' (not his own)
2.	núm.u.îgɔlɛ̂.í	'the person's own skin'
	núm.u.î-gɔlɛ.í	'the person's hide, skin, leather' (not his own)
3.	núm.u.înyɛnɛ̂.í	'the person's own liver'
	núm.u.î-nyɛnɛ.í	'the person's liver' (foodstuff)

The distinction is an active one in Mende and any Mende speaker can 'understand' even the most outrageous or gory complex where one creature possesses the body parts of another.

The Definite Form Marked ^

One is likely to find a definite form in .î (instead of .í) somewhat disturbing. As a general rule, any time the definite form (or jí or ná) occurs within a complex it takes the form .î (or jî or nâ). Notice that this in no way affects the phonetic tone of the definite marker. The effects of ^ shared between two vowels are, ^´, (‾ ‒), (high, mid) and ^` (the ` is usually unmarked), (‾ _), (high, low). When the definite marker occurs within a complex and anything but jí, ná or sià follows, the definite form changes from .í to .î.* In núm.uîgál.ɛ.í (‾‾‾ ‒‒‒) notice that the .i still produces a high tone. It is the downstepped high (mid) on gálɛ.í that is the basis for having the source tone mark ^ replace the mark, ´, on .i. Similarly, in núm.u.î-galɛ.í, where .i is still high phonetically and the phonetic tones from ^ which are (‾ _) are shared by .i and a, (‾‾‾ __‒). There have been a number of drills on noun compounds. Here are some drills on the formation of noun possessive compounds.

Drill I. Nl Nouns. The teacher will read two nouns. Form a possessive compound with the second noun possessed by the first.

1.	mahǎ búl.u	mahɛ̌.î-bul.i.í	the chief's trumpet
2.	nikǎ kûl.u	nikɛ̌.î-gul.i.í	the cow's shed
3.	hóta mbaǎ	hótɛ.î-bɛɛ.í	the guest's rice
4.	mahǎ mbomǎ	mahɛ̌.î-bomɛ.í	the chief's hammock

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*There is no tonal change, ´ > ^, before a pronoun or prolocative.

5.	nyahâ gbɛhɛ́	nyahɛ̂.î-gbɛhɛ.í	the woman's bench
6.	gɔmá ndó	gɔmɛ́.î-lo.í	the minister bird's chick
7.	hiîndo bɔlɔ	hiîndo.î-bɔlɛ.í	the man's hat
8.	hóta ndomǎ	hótɛ.î-lomɛ.í	the guest's shirt
9.	dɔ̂w.u ngáw.u (N1)	dɔ̂w.i.î-yaw.i.í	the duck's egg (not the one it layed)
10.	tɛ́ ngáw.u (N1)	tɛ́.î-yaw.i.í	the chicken's egg (not the one it layed)
11.	ndopô bɛlɛ	ndopô.î-bɛlɛ.í	the child's trousers
12.	nyahâ kpɛgbɛ	nyahɛ̂.î-gbɛgbɛ.í	the woman's comb
13.	ndopô bôla	ndopô.î-bolɛ.í	the child's cup
14.	mahǎ pɛ́l.ɛ	mahɛ̌.î-wɛl.ɛ.í	the chief's house
15.	nyahâ fɛlɛ̂	nyahɛ̂.î-vɛlɛ.í	the woman's winnowing fan
16.	nduwɔ̌ jɔwɔ́	nduwɔ̌.î-jɔwɔ.í	the slave's chain
17.	nyahâ kạŋá	nyahɛ̂.î-gaŋa.á	the woman's box
18.	ndopô mitǎ	ndopô.î-mitɛ.í	the child's spoon
19.	hiîndo ndɔɔ̌	hiîndo.î-lɔɔ.í	the man's wine
20.	hóta fula	hótɛ.î-vulɛ.í	the guest's village

Drill II. N2 Nouns. It is essential that the connection between the animate possessor and the body part name be the same type as in bíwùǔ.í 'your head' (your own head). If the N2 noun is connected by hyphen it will have the meaning that you possess some head other than the one attached to your body.

1.	nyahâ ngómbi	nyahɛ̂.îwómbi.í	the woman's knee
2.	mahǎ kpɛl.ɛ̌	mahɛ̌.îgbɛl.ɛ̌.í	the chief's beard
3.	ndopô kɔ́w.ɔ	ndopô.îgɔ́w.ɛ.í	the child's foot
4.	tɛ́ ngó	tɛ́.îwó.í	the chicken's voice
5.	nyahâ njombǒ	nyahɛ̂.îyombǒ.í	the woman's hair
6.	mahǎ tokǒ	mahɛ̌.îlokǒ.í	the chief's hand
7.	hiîndo bɔtâni	hiîndo.îbɔtân.í	the man's fist
8.	nikǎ nɛ́	nikɛ̌.înɛ́.ɛ́	the cow's tongue
9.	dɔ̂w.u nguǔ	dɔ̂w.i.îwuǔ.í	the duck's head
10.	nikǎ ngól.i	nikɛ̌.îwól.i.í	the cow's tail
11.	hiîndo kpɛl.ɛ̌	hiîndo.îgbɛl.ɛ̌.í	the man's beard
12.	ndopô kpakî	ndopô.îgbakî.í	the child's shoulder
13.	kêna tokǒ	kênɛ.îlokǒ.í	the man's hand
14.	hóta ndá	hótɛ.îlɛ́.í	the guest's mouth, name
15.	ndónda hókpa	ndóndɛ.îhókpɛ.í	the pig's nose
16.	nyahâ ngâma	nyahɛ̂.îyâmɛ.í	the woman's eye
17.	ndopô kóma	ndopô.îgómɛ.í	the child's cheek
18.	hiîndo dígbe	hiîndo.îdígbe.í	the man's heel

19.	mbakǎ ngó	mbakɛ̌.îwó.í	the guitar's sound (voice)
20.	ndikpǎ ngá	ndikpɛ̌.îyɛ́.í	the arrow's point
21.	hakǔ kɔ́ndɔ	hakǔ.îgɔ́ndɛ.í	the turtle's shell
22.	nikǎ kɔlɔ̂	nikɛ̌.îgɔlɛ̂.í	the cow's skin
23.	hiîndo fɔ́ndɔ	hiîndo.îvɔ́ndɛ.í	the man's sweat

Drill III. Mixed Complexes. In this drill you will be given various examples of the three types of complexes. Indicate which of the three types each is; compounds like hóta-wɛlɛ, 'guest house' should be marked C. Possessive complexes of the kɔ́mi.î-gom.í type should be marked N1 and kɔ́mi.îgómi.í complexes are to be marked N2. This exercise is to be done without looking at the book. The teacher will read the phrases.

1.	hakǔ.îgɔ́ndɛ.í	the turtle's shell	N2
2.	nyahâ-gbɛhɛ.í	woman's chair	C
3.	ndóndɛ.îhókpɛ.í	the pig's nose	N2
4.	ndopô.î-mitɛ.í	the child's spoon	N1
5.	mbaǎ-hiw.i.í	rice heap	C
6.	tɛ́.î-yaw.i.í	the chicken's egg	N1
7.	bɛɛ́si-gɔlɛ.í	pig skin	C
8.	mahɛ̌.î-bomɛ.í	the chief's hammock	N1
9.	hiîndo.îgbɛl.ɛ̌.í	the man's beard	N2
10.	nɔ́nɔ-bolɛ.í	the milk cup	C
11.	hiîndo.î-bɔlɛ.í	the man's hat	N1
12.	tɛ́-yaw.i.í	the chicken egg	C
13.	ndopô.îgómɛ.í	the child's cheek	N2
14.	nikɛ̌.îwól.i.í	the cow's tail	N2
15.	hótɛ.î-lomɛ.í	the guest's shirt	N1
16.	dɔ̂w.i.î-yaw.i.í	the duck's egg	N1

17.	njé-guli.í	the goat hut	C
18.	mahɛ̌.îlokǒ.í	the chief's hand	N2
19.	fandě-gulɛ.í	cotton cloth	C
20.	nyahɛ̂.î-vɛl.ɛ.í	the woman's winnowing fan	N1

Tests 43 and 44 deal with this chapter.

CHAPTER EIGHT

NUMERALS

Numerals for Counting

The following numerals are used for counting. A translation is provided when necessary or interesting.

1. itá

2. fel.é

3. saw.á

4. ná.âni

5. lɔ́.ɔ̂lu

6. wɛ́-ita (*wɔ́* from *lɔ́.ɔ̂lu*, note *l* and *w* alteration *wɔ́* becoming *wɛ́* before the *i* of *itá*, 'one': 'five and one')

7. wɔ́-fe.la ('five and two')

8. wáyâkpa

9. tál.u
   táw.u

10. puú

11. puúmàhúyèlá ('on ten: one more')

12. puúmàhúfȅl.é

etc. puúmàhú_________

20. núm.ugbɔ̀yɔ̂ngɔ̀ ('person is finished', all fingers and toes counted)

21. núm.ugbɔ̀yɔ̂ngɔ̀mahúyèlá ('on twenty: one more')

etc.

30. núm.ugbɔ̀yɔ̂ngɔ̀mahúpùú ('on twenty: ten')

31. núm.ugbɔ̀yɔ̂ngɔ̀mahúpùúmàhúyèlá ('on twenty: ten; on all that: one')

40. núm.ufèl.égbɔ̀yɔ̂ngɔ̀ ('two persons finished')

50. núm.ufèl.égbɔ̀yɔ̂ngɔ̀mahúpùú

Numerals One Through Ten

The Mende cardinal numerals, one through ten are:

yelá	one	wɛ́-ita	six
fel.é	two	wɔ́-fe.la	seven
saw.á	three	wáyâkpa	eight
ná.âni	four	tál.u*	nine
lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	five	puú	ten

Previous sections have dealt with constructions and the peculiar ways the forms of the constituent elements are altered through consonant mutation and tonal interpretation. When nouns are enumerated the verb yɛ̀ 'to be' is omitted in the present tense leaving only its tone. E.g. mahǎ`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu, 'five chiefs'. The ǎ is (‾) high since there is a ` after it and the phonetic high on lɔ́ is downstepped from the high of ǎ. The tone of the construction is (_‾--_). Notice that the noun is not plural in this construction.

Drill I. Practice forming noun-numeral constructions in the following exercise.

1.	mahǎ	chief		
	lɔ́.ɔ̂lu		mahǎ`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	five chiefs
2.	kɔl.ɔ̌	book		
	ná.âni		kɔl.ɔ̌`ná.âni	four books
3.	kamɔ́	teacher		
	fel.é		kamɔ́`fel.é	two teachers
4.	tɔw.ɔ	bean		
	tál.u		tɔw.ɔ`tál.u	nine beans
5.	sámba	basket		
	saw.á		sámba`saw.á	three baskets
6.	sibâ	onion		
	fel.é		sibâ`fel.é	two onions
7.	tavâ	pipe		
	lɔ́.ɔ̂lu		tavâ`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	five pipes

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*also táw.u

8.	katǎ saw.á	catfish	katǎ` saw.á three catfish
9.	kual.ǎ ná.âni	monkey	kual.ǎ` ná.âni four monkeys
10.	gɔmá wɛ́-ita	minister bird	gɔmá` wɛ́-ita six minister birds
11.	mitǎ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	spoon	mitǎ` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu five spoons
12.	kalǒ fel.é	basin	kalǒ` fel.é two basins
13.	njow.ǒ wáyâkpa	potatoes	njow.ǒ` wáyâkpa eight potatoes
14.	kol.ô fel.é	driver ant	kol.ô` fel.é two driver ants
15.	ngúl.u lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	tree	ngúl.u` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu five trees
16.	hél.e saw.á	elephant	hél.e` saw.á three elephants
17.	hóta wɔ́-fe.la	guest	hóta` wɔ́-fe.la seven guests
18.	bomuko yelá	pigeon	bomuko` yelá one pigeon
19.	fɔfɔ puú	grub	fɔfɔ` puú ten grubs
20.	búl.u saw.á	trumpet	búl.u` saw.á three trumpets

Notice the tone of sibâ` fel.é 'two onions' (_‾_‾). Whereas sibâ has the tones (_\) in the indefinite form, the â is here a high tone, like sibâ-vɛɛ (_¯ __) 'vessel for onions'. The ^̲ tonal unit is shared, even when there is no other connection between the words involved. This is a rule of wide application. The forms above can be made into complete sentences by the addition of the indefinite plural ngà.a and a verbal particle l.ɔ́.

Drill II. Using the cues for Drill I, make sentences with ngà.al.ɔ́.

kɔl.ɔ̌` ná.âningà.al.ɔ́
There are four books.

Drill III. Pronouns can be counted in roughly the same way. (The result is a complete sentence.)

1. tǐ fel.é	tǐ` fel.é There are two of them.
2. mǔ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	mǔ` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu There are five of us.
3. tǐ ná.âni	tǐ` ná.âni There are four of them.
4. wǔ wɛ́-ita	wǔ` wɛ́-ita There are six of you.
5. mǔ tál.u	mǔ` tál.u There are nine of us.

Notice that these pronouns are high, because `̲ immediately follows the polarized vowel ˇ̲. Phonetically high vowels are also downstepped because of the `̲. Follow this process for counted nouns and pronouns.

1. tǐ` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu (¯ ....)	mahǎ` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu (_¯ ....)

Polarized vowels are high because they are followed by `̲. The first a of mahǎ is low because it is unmarked.

2. tǐ` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu (¯ ¯ ¯ _)	mahǎ` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu (_ ¯ ¯ ¯ _)

The tonal sequence (¯ _) comes from the tonal source marker (^̲).

3. tǐ` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu (¯ ¯ ¯ _)	mahǎ` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu (_ ¯ ¯ ¯ _)

The whole sequence (¯¯_) is downstepped from the preceding phonetic tone. This rule applies to the phonetic tones, not to the tonal source markers.

Test 45 will show how well these drills are mastered.

Drill IV. Numerals are also nouns of the N1 type and are connected to a preceding pronoun by a hyphen with ngɔ at the end of the complex, e.g. tǐ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ (▁ ▔▔ ▁▁) 'all five of them'. The form ngɔ means 'all' here. This construction is normally used only for the numerals two through seven.

1.	tǐ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	tǐ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ all five of them
2.	mǔ saw.á	mǔ-ja.angɔ* all three of us
3.	wǔ ná.âni	wǔ-na.aningɔ all four of you
4.	tǐ saw.á	tǐ-ja.angɔ all three of them
5.	tǐ fel.é	tǐ-ve.enjɔ† or tǐ-ve.engɔ both of them
6.	mǔ wɛ́-ita	mǔ-wɛitangɔ all six of us
7.	mǔ wɔ́-fe.la	mǔ-wɔfe.langɔ all seven of us
8.	wǔ fel.é	wǔ-ve.engɔ both of you
9.	mǔ saw.á	mǔ-ja.angɔ all three of us
10.	tǐ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	tǐ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ all five of them

Drill V. Constructions like mǔ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ can take jí or ná and the definite plural marker .í. E.g. mǔ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ.íjí 'all these five of us, the five of us here' (not those over there), and wǔ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ.ínâsià, 'all those five of you (there)'.

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*Nearly always without the w.

†ve.enjɔ is from ve.engɔ. Both nearly always occur without the l.

1.	mǔ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	mǔ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ.íjí	all these five of us
2.	tǐ saw.á ná	tǐ-ja.angɔ.íná	all those three of them
3.	wǔ ná.âni jí	wǔ-na.aningɔ.íjí	all these four of you
4.	tǐ wɛ́-ita ná	tǐ-wɛitangɔ.íná	all those six of them
5.	mǔ saw.á jí	mǔ-ja.angɔ.íjí	all these three of us
6.	mǔ saw.á jí sià	mǔ-ja.angɔ.íjîsià	all these three of us
7.	tǐ fel.é ná sià	tǐ-ve.engɔ.ínâsià	both of them there
8.	wǔ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu ná sià	wǔ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ.ínâsià	all those five of you
9.	tǐ ná.âni jí sià	tǐ-na.aningɔ.íjîsià	all these four of them
10.	tǐ fel.é jí sià	tǐ-ve.engɔ.íjîsià	both of them (here)

Drill VI. Noun compounds and possessive complexes can be counted just as single nouns. Study the following.

ηɔnǐ-yaw.u`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	(__¯---_)	five bird eggs
ηɔnǐ.îyáw.i.î`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	(__¯-----_)	the bird's five very own eggs
ηɔnǐ.î-yaw.u.î`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	(__¯__¯-_)	the bird's five eggs, not laid by it

Form noun compounds and add the numerals with the following nouns.

1. ηɔnǐ
   ngáw.u
   lɔ́.ɔ̂lu
   nɔnǐ-yaw.u`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu
   five bird eggs

2. ngúl.u
   gbɛhɛ́
   ná.âni
   ngúl.u-gbɛhɛ`ná.âni
   four wooden benches

3. njaǎ
   bôla
   saw.á
   njaǎ-bola`saw.á
   three water cups

4. nyɛ́
   fáji
   wɛ́-ita
   nyɛ́-vaji`wɛ́-ita
   six fish buckets

5. fandě
   ndomǎ
   fel.é
   fandě-loma`fel.é
   two cotton shirts

6. mbaǎ
   fɛɛ̌
   ná.âni
   mbaǎ-vɛɛ`ná.âni
   four rice pots

7. ndúvu
   ngál.a
   saw.á
   ndúvu-yal.a`saw.á
   three raffia mats

8. hiîndo
   bɔlɔ
   fel.é
   hiîndo-bɔlɔ`fel.é
   two men's hats

9. pu
   mitǎ
   lɔ́.ɔ̂lu
   pu-mita`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu
   five imported spoons

10.	ŋɔnǐ bambî lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	ŋɔnǐ-bambi`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	five bird's snares

Drill VII. The form kpé indicates 'only'. It is used with fel.é, saw.á, and yelá which become tonally fel.ě, sawǎ and yǎ.*

1.	nyahâ fel.ě	nyahâ`fel.ěkpé	only two women
2.	fáji yǎ	fáji`yǎkpé	only one bucket
3.	sani saw.ǎ	sani`saw.ǎkpé	only three bottles
4.	mitǎ fel.ě	mitǎ`fel.ěkpé	only two spoons
5.	yabâsi yǎ	yabâsi`yǎkpé	only one onion

(with compounds)

6.	tɔ́kpɔ fɔfɔ̌ saw.ǎ	tɔ́kpɔ-vɔfɔ`saw.ǎkpé	only three palm beetles
7.	ngúl.u kaŋá yǎ	ngúl.u-gaŋa`yǎkpé	only one wooden chest
8.	kɔfí bôla yǎ	kɔfí-bola`yǎkpé	only one coffee cup
9.	huǎ pel.ě fel.ě	huǎ-wel.e`fel.ěkpé	only two game trails
10.	fúl.u han.ǐ yǎ	fúl.u-han.i`yǎkpé	only one living thing

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*yilǎ becomes yiǎ which becomes yǎ.

11.	fandě ndomǎ saw.ǎ	fandě-loma`saw.ǎkpé only three cotton shirts
12.	huǎ bambî yǎ	huǎ-bambi`yǎkpé only one game snare

<u>Drill VIII.</u> It is possible to put the noun which is being counted into the definite plural form. This emphasizes its plurality. When this is done, however, the noun 'loses contact' with the numeral and a pronoun is inserted to stand for the noun near the numeral. Since the noun is plural the pronoun is plural, <u>tǐ</u>.

E.g. <u>mahɛ̌.ìsiàtǐ`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu</u> (__¯-_¯--‿) There are five of these chiefs.

The meaning of the construction is 'of the chiefs here, five of them are being referred to'. This is quite different from the construction <u>mahǎ`fel.é.ínâsià</u> 'those two chiefs'. Notice also that a complete sentence is formed.

Add the definite plural form to these nouns.

1.	mahǎ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	mahɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu There are five of the chiefs.
2.	mahǎ jí lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	mahɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu There are five of these chiefs.
3.	mahǎ ná lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	mahɛ̌.ínâsiàtǐ`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu There are five of those chiefs.
4.	fɛɛ̌ fel.é	fɛɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`fel.é There are two of the pots.
5.	fɛɛ̌ jí fel.é	fɛɛ̌.íjísiàtǐ`fel.é There are two of these pots.
6.	fɛɛ̌ ná fel.é	fɛɛ̌.ínâsiàtǐ`fel.é There are two of those pots.

7. ndomǎ
jí
saw.á

ndomɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ` saw.á
There are three of these shirts.

8. pɛ́l.ɛ
ná
fel.é

pɛ́l.ɛ.ínâsiàtǐ` fel.é
There are two of those houses.

9. tɔw.ɔ
jí
wɛ́-ita

tɔw.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ` wɛ́-ita
There are six of these beans.

10. ngolǒ
ná
saw.á

ngolɛ̌.ínâsiàtǐ` saw.á
There are three of those chimps.

(with compounds)

11. nikǎ
fóma
jí
fel.é

nikǎ-vomɛ.íjîsiàtǐ` fel.é
There are two of these cow whips.

12. nyɛ́
fáji
ná
ná.âni

nyɛ́-vaji.ínâsiàtǐ` ná.âni
There are four of those fish buckets.

13. fandɛ̌
ndomǎ
ná
fel.é

fandɛ̌-lomɛ.ínâsiàtǐ` fel.ɛ̌
There are two of those cotton shirts.

14. ŋɔnǐ
ngáw.u
ná
saw.á

ŋɔnǐ-yaw.i.ínâsiàtǐ` saw.á
There are three of those bird eggs.

15. ndúvu
ngál.a
jí
fel.é

ndúvu-yal.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐ` fel.é
There are two of those raffia mats.

(also with <u>N2</u> possessives)

16. ŋɔnǐ.í
ngáw.u
ná
wɛ́-ita

ŋɔnǐ.îyáw.i.ínâsiàtǐˋwɛ́-ita
There are six of those eggs belonging to the bird (that laid them).

(also with N1 possessives)

17. ngǐ
ngetê
jí
fel.é

ngǐ-yete.íjîsiàtǐˋfel.é
There are three of these pestles of hers.

18. nyâ
dɔ̂w.u
ná
ná.âni

nyâ-dɔw.i.ínâsiàtǐˋná.âni
There are four of those ducks of mine.

19. ngǐ
fɛɛ̌
ná
saw.á

ngǐ-vɛɛ.ínâsiàtǐˋsaw.á
There are three of those pots of hers.

20. tǐ
kɔl.ɔ̌
jí
wɔ́-fe.la

tǐ-gɔl.ɛ.íjîsiàtǐˋwɔ́-fe.la
There are seven of these books of theirs.

21. nyâ
gboji
ná
saw.á

nyâ-gboji.ínâsiàtǐˋsaw.á
There are three of those plums of mine.

22. bî
jiw.î
ná
fel.é

bî-jiw.i.ínâsiàtǐˋfel.é
There are two of those keys of yours.

23. ngǐ
kpakal.i
ná
saw.á

ngǐ-gbakal.i.ínâsiàtǐˋsaw.á
There are three of those chairs of his.

24. nyâ
kpandɛ̂
jí
fel.é

nyâ-gbandɛ.íjîsiàtǐ` fel.é
There are two of these guns of yours.

25. mǔ
kɔ̂w.u
ná
ná.âni

mǔ-gɔw.i.ínâsiàtǐ` ná.âni
There are two of those boxes of ours.

(with <u>N1</u> nouns, in the singular)

26. ηɔnǐ.í
ngáw.u
fel.é

ηɔnǐ.î-yaw.i.î` fel.é
There are the bird's two eggs.

27. hiîndo
pɛ́l.ɛ
fel.e

hiîndo.î-wɛl.ɛ.î` fel.é
There are the man's two houses.

28. nyahâ
gbɛhɛ́
lɔ́.ɔ̂lu

nyahɛ̂.î-gbɛhɛ.î` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu
There are the woman's five chairs.

29. ndopô
ndomǎ
wɛ́-ita

ndopô.î-lomɛ.î` wɛ́-ita
There are the child's six shirts.

30. nyahâ
ndó
fel.é

nyahɛ̂.î-lo.î` fel.é
There are the woman's two children.

31. mahǎ
nyahâ
saw.á

mahɛ̌.î-nyahɛ.î` saw.á
There are the chief's three wives.

32. gɔmá
ndó
ná.âni

gɔmɛ́.î-lo.î` ná.âni
There are the minister bird's four chicks.

33. hóta
bô la
fel.é — hótɛ.î-bolɛ.î` fel.é
There are the guest's two cups.

34. mahǎ
pɛ́l.ɛ
fel.é — mahɛ̌.î-wɛl.ɛ.î` fel.ɛ́
There are the chief's two houses.

(with N2 nouns)

35. ŋɔnǐ
ngáw.u
ná.âni — ŋɔnǐ.îyáw.i.î` ná.âni
There are the bird's own four eggs.

36. dɔ̂w.u
ngáw.u
fel.é — dɔ̂w.i.î.yáw.i.î` fel.é
There are the duck's own two eggs.

(Now try Test 46)

The noun-numeral constructions such as those present in the first drill of this series can occur with demonstratives and the definite plural suffix.

Drill IX. Make the following forms definite.

1. tavâ
lɔ́.ɔ̂lu — tavâ` lɔ́.ɔ̂lu.îsià
the five pipes

2. mahǎ
fel.é — mahǎ` fel.é.îsià
the two chiefs

3. njow.ŏ
saw.á — njow.ŏ` saw.ɛ́.îsià
the three potatoes

4. ngúl.u
ná.âni — ngúl.u` ná.âni.îsià
the four trees

5. hóta
saw.á — hóta` saw.ɛ́.îsià
the three guests

6. kol.ô
puú — kol.ô` puú.îsià
the ten driver ants

7.	hél.e wɛ́-ita	hél.eˋwɛ́-itɛ.îsià the six elephants
8.	mitǎ saw.á	mitǎˋ saw.ɛ́.îsià the three spoons
9.	sibâ wɔ́-fe.la	sibâˋwɔ́-fe.lɛ.îsià the seven onions
10.	katǎ tál.u	katǎˋ tál.u.îsià the nine catfish
11.	kamɔ́ saw.á	kamɔ́ˋ saw.ɛ́.îsià the three teachers
12.	kual.ǎ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	kual.ǎˋ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu.îsià the five monkeys
13.	kɔl.ɔ̌ wɔ́-fe.la	kɔl.ɔ̌ˋwɔ́-fe.lɛ.îsià the seven books
14.	búl.u saw.á	búl.uˋsaw.ɛ́.îsià the three horns
15.	sámba fel.é	sámbaˋ fel.é.îsià the two baskets

Drill X. When demonstratives (jí and ná) are used, the definite plural suffix follows. Remember that jí and ná have the tone mark ^ when they occur before sià.

Combine the following and add sià.

1.	tavâ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu jí	tavâˋ lɔ́.ɔ̂lu.íjîsià these five pipes
2.	njow.ǒ fel.é ná	njow.ǒˋ fel.é.ínâsià those two potatoes
3.	hél.e wɛ́-ita ná	hél.eˋwɛ́-itɛ.ínâsià those six elephants

4. fɔfɔ
saw.á
ná
fɔfɔ`saw.ɛ́.ínâsià
those three grubs

5. bomuko
fel.é
jí
bomuko` fel.é.íjîsià
these two pigeons

6. kual.ǎ
ná.âni
ná
kual.ǎ`ná.âni.ínâsià
those four monkeys

7. kalǒ
fel.é
jí
kalǒ` fel.é.íjîsià
these two basins

8. kɔl.ɔ̌
lɔ́.ɔ̂lu
ná
kɔl.ɔ̌`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu.ínâsià
those five books

9. pɛ́l.ɛ
fel.é
ná
pɛ́l.ɛ` fel.é.ínâsià
those two houses

10. gboji
wɛ́-ita
ná
gboji`wɛ́-itɛ.ínâsià
those six plums

11. bɔlɔ
ná.âni
jí
bɔlɔ`ná.âni.íjîsià
these four hats

12. nyahâ
lɔ́.ɔ̂
ná
nyahâ`lɔ́.ɔ̂lu.ínâsià
those five women

13. ngál.a
fel.é
jí
ngál.a` fel.é.íjîsià
these two mats

14. gbɛhɛ́
saw.á
jí
gbɛhɛ́`saw.ɛ́.íjîsià
these three chairs

15. bôla
tál.u
ná
bôla`tál.u.ínâsià
those nine cups

Ordinal Numerals

There are two sets of ordinal numerals which are distinguished from one another by tone (except hàl.a which is low in both sets.).

hàl.a	hàl.a	first
fèl.e	fél.e	second
sàw.a	sáw.a	third
nà.ani	ná.ani	fourth
lɔ̀.ɔlu	lɔ́.ɔlu	fifth
wɛ̀ita	wɛ́ita	sixth
wɔ̀fe.la	wɔ́fe.la	seventh
wàyakpa	wáyakpa	eighth
tàl.u	tál.u	ninth
pùu	púu	tenth

The low tone form is used in conjunction with -yeé 'the one', e.g. yeéhàl.a-yee.é 'the first one'. The high tone form is used with just the definite suffix .í, e.g. yeéfél.e.í 'the second'. In both cases the ordinal is preceded by yeé. A noun may precede the ordinal complex yielding the following possibilities.

yeéná.ani.í	the fourth
yeénà.ani-yee.é	the fourth
mahɛ̌.îyeéfèl.e-yee.é	the second chief

Drill XI. Change cardinal numerals to ordinal numerals. (High tone set first)

1. mahǎ`fel.é
mahɛ̌.î`yeéfél.e.í
the second chief

2. kamɔ́`saw.á
kamɔ́.î`yeésáw.ɛ.í
the third teacher

3. kual.ǎ`ná.âni
kual.ɛ̌.î`yeéná.ani.í
the fourth monkey

4.	kalǒ`saw.á	kalǒ.î`yeésáw.ɛ.í	the third basin
5.	hóta`yelá	hótɛ.î`yeéhàl.ɛ.í	the first guest
6.	katǎ`fel.é	katɛ̌.î`yeéfél.e.í	the second catfish
7.	sámba`fel.é	sámbɛ.î`yeéfél.e.í	the second basket
8.	mitǎ`saw.á	mitɛ̌.î`yeésáw.ɛ.í	the third spoon
9.	bomuko`yelá	bomuko.î`yeéhàlɛ.í	the first pigeon
10.	pɛ́l.ɛ`fel.é	pɛ́l.ɛ.î`yeéfél.e.í	the second house

(with *yeé*)

11.	kɔl.ɔ̌`saw.á	kɔl.ɛ̌.î`yeésàw.a-yee.é	the third book
12.	kamɔ́`fel.é	kamɔ́.î`yeéfèl.e-yee.é	the second teacher
13.	tavâ`ná.âni	tavɛ̂.î`yeénà.ani-yee.é	the fourth pipe
14.	mahǎ`saw.á	mahɛ̌.î`yeésàw.a-yee.é	the third chief
15.	núm.u`saw.á	núm.u.î`yeésàw.a-yee.é	the third person
16.	ngúl.u`yelá	ngúl.i.î`yeéhàl.a-yee.é	the first tree

17. hóta`yelá

hótɛ.î`yeéhàl.a-yee.é
the first guest

18. nyahâ`fel.é

nyahɛ̂.î`yeéfèl.e-yee.é
the second wife

19. tɔ́kpɔ`sawá

tɔ́kpɔ.î`yeésàwa-yee.é
the third palm tree

20. mahǎ`yelá

mahɛ̌.î`yeéhàl.a-yee.é
the first chief

(Test 46 covers the entire chapter.)

There are still many more variations that may be performed with various types of numerals and noun constructions. The various types shown here should be sufficient to express most of what one might expect to express in the first year of any foreign language study. For further discussion consult Innes, 1962, p. 67.

CHAPTER NINE

THE LOCATIVE FORMS

The Locative Forms

In English we call 'on' a PREPOSITION because 'on' is positioned before (Pre-) the noun when certain relationships are expressed. For the same kind of reason, certain forms in Mende are called **POSTPOSITIONS**. Study the following:

pél.ɛma	(‾‾‾)	on a house
kpaâbu	(- ‾ _)	under a shrimp
kpa.ǎhu	(_ _‾)	on (in) a farm
kâl.iya	(‾ _ _)	upon a hoe
mɛmɛma	(_ _ _)	on a mirror

When the indefinite form is used with a postposition, the non-specificity of the noun is emphasized. The tone of the postposition is simply an extension of the tone unit of the noun that precedes it. If the noun is under the influence of _́,(high) tonal unit, the postposition also is under the same influence, e.g. pél.ɛma (‾‾‾). The 'spread' of tonal polarity produces tones as follows:

1. kpa.ǎ + hu > kpa.ǎhu

2. kpa.ǎhu > kpa.ǎhǔ (Extend the polarization)

3. Determine the phonetic tones from right to left.

    a. kpaǎhǔ
    (•••••‾)

    b. (••••_‾)

    c. (_ _‾)

In practice the tonal source is not written on the postposition. It should be mentioned that in not writing the tonal source mark on the postposition, the student cannot produce the proper tonal sequence without recognizing a postposition as such and performing certain operations to achieve the assignment of the proper phonetic tone. This makes this type of transcription less than adequate for some purposes and makes it necessary for the student to learn sentence structure and grammatical relationships.

Here is a list of the most common postpositions.

1.	hu	in
2.	ma	on
3.	mbu	under
4.	nda	at the entrance to (--< ndá 'opening')
5.	nga	upon (--< ngá 'point, edge, end')

The postpositions are attached to pronouns in the same way they are attached to nouns,(tonal extension). The pronouns used with these locatives are the same as those used with N2 and N3 nouns, nyá, bí, ngǐ, etc. Notice that consonant mutation occurs.

Drill I. Affix the locative endings on pronouns in the following substitution drill. (In all of the following drills with locative forms the student, teacher, and informants should bear in mind that a noun or a pronoun and a locative do not necessarily indicate location. Constructions such as nyáma 'on me' and mahɛ̌.îma 'on the chief' may appear to be stretching the point or simply seeking words with which to drill. As particular locations these places are quite uninteresting. However, there are a large number of grammatical constructions where Noun + ma (or Noun + some other locative) occurs after certain verbs such as tâ.á` gbɔ́ma mahɛ̌.îma 'He is helping (onto) the chief'. It is this latter construction as well as specific locations that the following drills prepare the student for.)

		nyáma (¯¯)	
1.	ngǐ	ngǐma (_¯)	on him
2.	tǐ	tǐma	on them
3.	bí	bíma	on you
4.	hu	bíhu	in you
5.	mbu	bíbu	under you
6.	ngǐ	ngǐbu	under him
7.	wǔ	wǔbu	under you (pl.)
8.	nga	wǔya	upon you (pl.)
9.	tǐ	tǐya	upon them
10.	nyá	nyáya	upon me
11.	ngǐ	ngǐya	upon him
12.	hu	ngǐhu	in him

13.	ma	ngǐma	on him
14.	bí	bíma	on you
15.	mbu	bíbu	under you
16.	hu	bíhu	in you
17.	ngǐ	ngǐhu	in him
18.	nga	ngǐya	upon him
19.	ma	ngǐma	on him
20.	nyá	nyáma	on me

Drill II. Combine the following nouns (or pronouns) and postpositions.

1.	nyá ma	nyáma	on me
2.	bɔlɔ̌ * ma	bɔlɔ̌ma	on a hat
3.	tǐ mbu	tǐbu	under them
4.	pundî nga	pundîya	upon a mosquito
5.	pɛ́l.ɛ ma	pɛ́l.ɛma	on a house
6.	mǔ ma	mǔma	on us
7.	ŋɔnǐ hu	ŋɔnǐhu	in a bird
8.	mahǎ ma	mahǎma	on a chief
9.	hagbě nga	hagběya	upon a rabbit
10.	tǐ ma	tǐma	on them
11.	káma nda	kámala	at the entrance to the porro bush
12.	ndɔgbɔ̌ hu	ndɔgbɔ̌hu	in a forest

---

*also bɔlɔ

13.	hákpa hu	hákpahu	in a sauce
14.	ngukpě nga	ngukpěya	upon a stump
15.	gbahá ma	gbaháma	on a rope bridge
16.	kpáw.u ma	kpáw.uma	on a bridge
17.	kpéte hu	kpétehu	in a swamp
18.	kpukɔ̌ ma	kpukɔ̌ma	on a bed
19.	ngál.a ma	ngál.ama	on a mat
20.	ndɔɔ̌ hu	ndɔɔ̌hu	in wine
21.	fɛɛ̌ hu	fɛɛ̌hu	in a pot
22.	fɛɛ̌ mbu	fɛɛ̌bu	under a pot
23.	mbekě mbu	mbekěbu	under a branch
24.	pɛ́l.ɛ mbu	pɛ́l.ɛbu	under (in) a house
25.	pel.ě ma	pel.ěma	on a road
26.	hél.e ma	hél.ema	on an elephant
27.	lɛw.ɛ hu	lɛw.ɛhu	in dough
28.	kpambî ma	kpambîma	on a trail
29.	sani hu	sanihu	in a bottle
30.	kol.ǒ nga	kol.ǒya	upon embers

The definite form of nouns is often used with postpositions. (The pronouns have no separate definite form.) Remember that .í, jí or ná directly before sià became .î, jî or nâ. The same is so before locatives, e.g. pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu (‾‾‾ _), pɛ́l.ɛ.ínâbu (‾‾‾‾ _). That makes all of these postpositions phonetically low after definite forms including jî and nâ.

Drill III. In the following drill make the noun definite and add jí or ná when specified and add the postposition given.

1.	fɛɛ̌ mbu	fɛɛ̌.îbu	under the pot
2.	mbɛtɛ̌ mbu	mbɛtɛ̌.îbu	under the watch tower
3.	jagba jí hu	jagbɛ.íjîhu	in this basin
4.	hákpa ná hu	hákpɛ.ínâhu	in that soup
5.	kulǎ jí ma	kulɛ̌.íjîma	on this cloth
6.	mitǎ jí hu	mitɛ̌.íjîhu	in this spoon
7.	gbahá ná ma	gbahɛ́.ínâma	on that bridge
8.	pɛ́l.ɛ jí nda	pɛ́l.ɛ.íjîla	at the door of the house
9.	kɔtǔ ná mbu	kɔtǐ.ínâbu	under that stone
10.	díngbo jí nga	díngbo.íjîya	upon this post
11.	fáji jí mbu	fáji.íjîbu	under this bucket
12.	ndáw.a ná mbu	ndáw.ɛ.ínâbu	under this leaf

13.	kɔl.ɔ̌ jí ma	kɔl.ɛ̌.íjîma	on this book
14.	ndɔɔ̌ ná hu	ndɔɔ̌.ínâhu	in that wine
15.	patá jí hu	patɛ́.íjîhu	in this mud
16.	káma nda	kámɛ.îla	at the entrance to the porro bush
17.	kulǎ jí mbu	kulɛ̌.íjîbu	under this cloth
18.	njaǎ ná nda	njɛɛ̌.ínâla	on that river bank
19.	fula ná hu	fulɛ.ínâhu	in that village
20.	ŋanyǎ jí hu	ŋanyɛ̌.íjîhu	in this sand
21.	mɔtó hu	mɔtó.îhu	in the car
22.	kalǒ jí hu	kalǒ.íjîhu	in this basin
23.	foni ná hu	foni.ínâhu	in that elephant grass
24.	ndomǎ ma	ndomɛ̌.îma	on the shirt
25.	nikǎ jí nga	nikɛ̌.íjîya	upon this cow
26.	kôngo nda	kôngo.îla	at the door of the *kôngo*

27.	ngú.lɔ jí hu	ngú.lɛ.íjîhu	in this oil
28.	bafa ná mbu	bafɛ.ínâbu	in that hut
29.	kpuâ nda	kpuɛ̂.îla	on the farm (idiomatic)
30.	kpáva hu	kpávɛ.îhu	in the pocket

The locatives can be added to the definite plural form. The locatives follow sià and are low in phonetic tone since they share the ^ marker of .î, jî or nâ with sià.

Drill IV. Put the following forms together into the proper tonal sequence.

1.	ndomǎ jí sià ma	ndomɛ̌.íjîsiàma	on these shirts
2.	ngúl.u jí sià mbu	ngúl.i.íjîsiàbu	under these trees
3.	fɛɛ̌ ná sià hu	fɛɛ̌.ínâsiàhu	in those pots
4.	jagba jí sià mbu	jagbɛ.íjîsiàbu	under these basins
5.	kɔtǔ jí sià ma	kɔtǐ.íjîsiàma	on these stones
6.	fáji jí sià hu	fáji.íjîsiàhu	in these buckets
7.	mɔtó jí sià mbu	mɔtó.íjîsiàbu	under these cars

8.	bafa jí sià hu	bafɛ.íjîsiàhu	in these huts
9.	kpáva ná sià hu	kpávɛ.ínâsiàhu	in those pockets
10.	bambî jí sià hu	bambî.íjîsiàhu	in these snares

Drill V. Postpositions are attached to compounds and possessive constructions in the same way that they are attached to all of the other forms previously illustrated.

1.	nyɛ́-vaji hu	nyɛ́-vajihu	in a fish bucket
2.	njaǎ-bola ná hu	njaǎ-bolɛ.ínâhu	in that water cup
3.	hál.e-wɛl.ɛ jí nda	hál.e-wɛl.ɛ.íjîla	at the entrance to this hospital
4.	kpitǐ-yal.a ná sià ma	kpitǐ-yal.ɛ.ínâsiàma	on these grass mats
5.	mbaǎ-hiw.i jí mbu	mbaǎ-hiw.i.íjîbu	under this rice pile
6.	yeé fandě-yee.é jí sià ma	yeéfàndě-yee.éjîsiàma	on these cotton ones
7.	yeé kɔlǔ-yee.é ná sià hu	yeékɔ̀lǔ-yee.énâsiàhu	in those iron ones
8.	núm.u.îgɔlɛ̂.í jí ma	núm.u.îgɔlɛ̂.íjîma	on this person's own skin

9.	mahɛ̌.î-wɛl.ɛ.í ná mbu	mahɛ̌.î-wɛl.ɛ.ínâbu	in that chief's house
10.	nikɛ̌.îwól.i.í jí ma	nikɛ̌.îwól.i.íjîma	on this cow's tail

And on enumerated nouns and pronouns:

11.	tǐ-na.aningɔ.í jí sià ma	tǐ-na.aningɔ.íjîsiàma	on all these four of them
12.	tǐ-wɛ.itangɔ.í ná sià hu	tǐ-wɛ.itangɔ.ínâsiàhu	in all those six of them

Tests 47, 48 and 49 will show how well you have mastered these locatives.

There are a number of postpositions in Mende which are connected to preceding nouns much in the same way that N2 nouns and their possessors are connected. There is no tonal change other than that which is due to tonal polarization and there is consonant mutation of mutable consonants. It is quite obvious that some of the postpositions in the following list are related to N2 nouns.

1.	pôoma	behind	(cf. pôoma, N2)
2.	ngêya	in the palm, possession of	(cf. ngêya, N2)
3.	kohú	in the middle, belly of	(cf. koǒ, N2)
4.	ngumbá	on the top, head of	(cf. nguǔ, N2)
5.	ku.lɔ́	in front of	
6.	mahú	above, on the surface of	(ma + hu)
7.	nduahú	between	
8.	ndía	in the middle of	

The tonal combination of nouns or pronouns and these postpositions is very simple. The nyá, bí, ngí etc. pronouns are used. For example:

nyáwôoma (‾ ‾ _ _) behind me

pɛ́l.ɛwôoma	(‾‾‾__)	behind a house
pɛ́l.ɛ.îwôoma	(‾‾‾-__)	behind the house
nyágù.lɔ́	(‾_-)	in front of me
pɛ́l.ɛgù.lɔ́	(‾‾_-)	in front of a house
pɛ́l.ɛ.îgu.lɔ́	(‾‾‾_-)	in front of the house

Drill VI. Combine the following pronouns and postpositions.

1.	nyá pôoma	nyáwôoma	behind me
2.	ngǐ ngêya	ngǐyêya	in his hand
3.	tǐ ku.lɔ́	tǐgù.lɔ́	in front of them
4.	wǔ nduahú	wǔlùahú	between you (pl.)
5.	nyá kohú	nyágòhú	inside me
6.	bí ngêya	bíyêya	in your hand
7.	tǐ nduahú	tǐlùahú	between them
8.	mǔ pôoma	mǔwôoma	behind us
9.	tǐ kohú	tǐgohú	inside them
10.	bí pôoma	bíwôoma	behind you
11.	nyá ngumbá	nyáwùmbá	on the top of me
12.	tǐ nduahú	tǐlùahú	between them
13.	bí mahú	bímàhú	above you
14.	tǐ ngêya	tǐyêya	in their hand

15.	nyá ku.lɔ́	nyágù.lɔ́	in front of me
16.	bí ngumbá	bíwùmbá	on the top of you
17.	tǐ mahú	tǐmahú	above them
18.	mǔ nduahú	mǔlùahú	between us
19.	nyá pôoma	nyáwôoma	behind me
20.	tǐ kohú	tǐgòhú	inside them

Drill VII. Combine the following nouns and postpositions. Notice that the definite marker *.í* (when used) changes to *.î* before the postposition. Notice also that this change affects only high pitched vowels that follow *.î*, e.g. *pél.ɛ.îwôoma* (¯¯¯¯ _ _) 'behind the house' and *ngêya* 'in the possession of'. When the definite plural suffix *sià* occurs before postpositions with high pitches on the first vowels, you must raise the pitch from the *à* of *sià* to the high vowel.

yeédɔ̂w.i.íjîsiàwôoma
(_¯¯ ¯¯¯-_¯__)

The *`* mark on *sià* also limits or stops the influence of preceding *^* marks on *î*, *jî*, or *nâ*.

Add the specified postpositons to the following nouns.

1.	kaŋá pôoma	kaŋáwôoma	behind a box
2.	kaŋá.á pôoma	kaŋá.âwôoma	behind the box
3.	fɛɛ̌.í mahú	fɛɛ̌.îmahú	above the bucket
4.	mbekě.í ku.lɔ́	mbekě.îgu.lɔ́	in front of the branch
5.	ngukpě.í ngumbá	ngukpě.îwumbá	on the top of the stump
6.	fáji.í hu	fáji.îhu	in the bucket
7.	fɛɛ̌.í kohú	fɛɛ̌.îgohú	in the pot

8.	ngíye.í nga	ngíye.îya	on the top of the hill
9.	njé.í ngêya	njé.îyêya	in the possession of the goat
10.	pɛ́l.ɛ.í pôoma	pɛ́l.ɛ.îwôoma	behind the house
11.	pɛ́l.ɛ.í ndía	pɛ́l.ɛ.îlía	in the middle of the house
12.	ndáw.ɛ.í mahú	ndáw.ɛ.îmahú	above the leaf
13.	sani.í kohú	sani.îgohú	inside the bottle
14.	bɔlɛ.í pôoma	bɔlɛ.îwôoma	behind the hat
15.	kɔl.ɛ̌.í mahú	kɔlɛ̌.îmahú	above the book
16.	kɔwɔ.í ku.lɔ́	kɔwɔ.îgu.lɔ́	in front of the log
17.	kóni.í nga	kóni.îya	at the head of the ax
18.	ngolě.í ngêya	ngolě.îyêya	in the possession of the chimpanzee
19.	díngbo.í pôoma	díngbo.îwôoma	behind the post
20.	hótɛ.í ku.lɔ́	hótɛ.îgu.lɔ́	in front of the guest
21.	kɔtǐ.í mahú	kɔtǐ.îmahú	above the stone
22.	pɛ́l.ɛ.í ngumbá	pɛ́l.ɛ.îwumbá	on the top of the house
23.	tɔl.î.í hu	tɔl.î.îhu	in the nut

Compounds, Complexes and Locative Forms

Any of the noun compounds, singular or plural, with or without demonstrative suffixes can take locatives. Possessive complexes also can take locative forms. The locative form comes at the end of the compound or complex.

Drill VIII. Add the specified locative forms to the following compounds and complexes.

1.	ngǐkênya ma	ngǐkênyama	on his uncle
2.	bímàmâ pôoma	bímàmâwôoma	behind your grandmother
3.	bígá.a.á hu	bígá.a.âhu	in your bone (fortitude)
4.	nyágɔ́w.ɛ.í mbu	nyágɔ́w.ɛ.îbu	under your foot
5.	bílòkǒ.í hu	bílòkǒ.îhu	within your reach
6.	mǔbondâ.á ku.lɔ́	mǔbondâ.âgu.lɔ́	in front of our kinsmen
7.	ngǐnɛ́.ɛ́ mahú	ngǐnɛ́.ɛ̂mahú	above his tongue
8.	nyábɔ̀tâni.í kohú	nyábɔ̀tâni.îgohú	inside my fist
9.	nyálòkǒ.í mbu	nyálòkǒ.îbu	under my hand
10.	ngǐwól.i.í hu	ngǐwól.i.îhu	in his ear
11.	mǔ-lɛɛ.í kụ.lɔ́	mǔ-lɛɛ.îgu.lɔ́	in front of our town
12.	ngǐ-lɔkpɔ.í mbu	ngǐ-lɔkpɔ.îbu	under his palm tree
13.	nyâ-gal.ɛ.í hu	nyâ-gal.ɛ.îhu	inside my fish trap
14.	bî-yal.ɛ.í mahú	bî-yal.ɛ.îmahú	above your mat
15.	nyâ-luwɛ.í ngêya	nyâ-luwɛ.îyêya	in the possession of my slave
16.	mǔ-lɔɔ.í hu	mǔ-lɔɔ.îhu	in our wine

17.	bî-yɔmbu.í nga	bî-yɔmbu.îya	on your fire
18.	nyâ-vulɛ.í pôoma	nyâ-vulɛ.îwôoma	behind my village
19.	bî-wɛlɛ.í mbu	bî-wɛlɛ.îbu	in (under) your house
20.	bûku.íná hu	bûku.ínâhu	in that book
21.	núm.u.íjí pôoma	núm.u.íjîwôoma	behind this person
22.	núm.u.íná kul.ɔ́	núm.u.ínâgu.lɔ́	in front of that person
23.	ndomɛ̌.íná hu	ndomɛ̌.ínâhu	in that shirt
24.	kaŋá.áná ma	kaŋá.ánâma	on that case
25.	gbɛhɛ́.ínâsià ma	gbɛhɛ́.ínâsiàma	on those stools
26.	fulɛ.ínâsià pôoma	fulɛ.ínâsiàwôoma	behind those villages
27.	njasɛ̌.ínâsià nduahú	njasɛ̌.ínâsiàluahú	between those palm fronds
28.	kɔ̂w.i.ínâsià kohú	kɔ̂w.i.ínâsiàgohú	inside those boxes
29.	nyɛ́.íjîsià nduahú	nyɛ́.íjîsiàluahú	between these fish
30.	pel.ě.ínâsià nduahú	pel.ě.ínâsiàluahú	between those roads
31.	bûku.ínâsià pôoma	bûku.ínâsiàwôoma	behind those books
32.	gbɛhɛ́.íjîsià nduahú	gbɛhɛ́.íjîasiàluahú	between these stools
33.	pɛ́l.ɛ.íjîsià ndía	pɛ́l.ɛ.íjîsiàlía	among these houses
34.	pɛ́l.ɛ.íjîsià nduahú	pɛ́l.ɛ.íjîsiàluahú	between these houses

35.	ngúl.i.í.jîsià mbu	ngúl.i.íjîsiàbu	under these trees
36.	kɔ̂w.i.íjîsià nduahú	kɔ̂w.i.íjîsiàluahú	between these boxes
37.	fulɛ.ínâsià nduahú	fulɛ.ínâsiàluahú	between those villages
38.	yeéhàgbɛ̌.í ngêya	yeéhàgbɛ̌.îyêya	in the rabbit's possession
39.	yeéngùkpɛ̌.í ngumbá	yeéngùkpɛ̌.îwumbá	on the top of the stump
40.	yeéfáji.íjí hu	yeéfáji.íjîhu	in this bucket
41.	yeémɛ̀mɛ.í ku.lɔ́	yeémɛ̀mɛ.îgu.lɔ́	in front of the mirror
42.	yeébà.lɛ̂.í hu	yeébà.lɛ̂.îhu	in the basket
43.	yeékɔ̀wɔ.íjí mbu	yeékɔ̀wɔ.íjîbu	under this log
44.	yeékpìtǐ.íjí hu	yeékpìtǐ.íjîhu	in this grass
45.	yeébàfɛ.íjí nda	yeébàfɛ.íjîla	at the entrance to this hut
46.	yeépùjɛ.í hu	yeépùjɛ.îhu	in the pepper
47.	yeéngíye.í nga	yeéngíye.îya	on the top of the hill
48.	yeésɔ́li.íjí nga	yeésɔ́li.íjîya	on the edge of this spear (blade)
49.	yeébàmbî.íjí ku.lɔ́	yeébàmbî.íjîgu.lɔ́	in front of this snare
50.	yeéjàgbɛ.íná hu	yeéjàgbɛ.ínâhu	in that basin
51.	yeéngú.lɛ.íná hu	yeéngú.lɛ.ínâhu	in that oil
52.	yeétɔ̀lî.íná mbu	yeétɔ̀lî.ínâbu	under that nut

53.	yeéhótɛ.íjí pôoma	yeéhótɛ.íjîwôoma	behind this guest
54.	yeémbàlǔ.íjîsià nduahú	yeémbàlǔ.íjîsiàluahú	between these canes
55.	yeédɔ̂w.i.ínâsià pôoma	yeédɔ̂w.i.ínâsiàwôoma	behind those ducks
56.	yeénúm.u.ínâsià ngêya	yeénúm.u.ínâsiàyêya	in the possession of those persons
57.	yeésámbɛ.ínâsià hu	yeésámbɛ.ínâsiàhu	in those baskets
58.	yeékpìtǐ-yee.íjîsià mahú	yeékpìtǐ-yee.éjîsiàmahú	above these grass ones
59.	yeégɔ̀ɔ̂tɔ-yee.éná mbu	yeégɔ̀ɔ̂tɔ-yee.énâbu	under that rope one
60.	yeémɛ̀ndé-yee.êsià mahú	yeémɛ̀ndé-yee.êsiàmahú	above the Mende ones
61.	yeéfàndɛ̌-yee.éjîsià nduahú	yeéfàndɛ̌-yee.éjîsiàluahú	between these cotton ones
62.	yeépâni-yee.éjîsià mbu	yeépâni-yee.éjîsiàbu	in these iron roof ones
63.	yeésámbɛ.ínâsià ndía	yeésámbe.ínâsiàlía	among those baskets
64.	nikɛ̌.î-gul.i.í mbu	nikɛ̌.î-gul.i.îbu	in the cow's shed
65.	hótɛ.î-lomɛ.í mahú	hótɛ.î-lomɛ.îmahú	above the guest's shirt
66.	ndopô.î-bolɛ.í hu	ndopô.î-bolɛ.îhu	inside the child's cups
67.	mahɛ̌.î-wɛl.ɛ.í mbu	mahɛ̌.î-wɛl.ɛ.îbu	in the chief's house
68.	hiîndo.î-lɔɔ.í hu	hiîndo.î-lɔɔ.îhu	in the man's wine
69.	nyahɛ̂.îwómbi.í ma	nyahɛ̂.îwómbi.îma	on the woman's knee
70.	ndopô.îgɔ́w.ɛ.í mbu	ndopô.îgɔ́wɛ.îbu	under the child's foot

71.	mahɛ̌.îlokǒ.í ma	mahɛ̌.îlokǒ.îma	on the chief's hand
72.	hakǔ.îgɔ́ndɛ.í mbu	hakǔ.îgɔ́ndɛ.îbu	under the turtle's shell
73.	nikɛ̌.îgɔlɛ̂.í mahú	nikɛ̌.îgɔlɛ̂.îmahú	above the cow's own skin
74.	hiîndo.îbɔtâni.í ma	hiîndo.îbɔtâni.îma	on the man's fist
75.	mǔ-ja.angɔ pôoma	mǔ-ja.angɔwôoma	behind all three of us
76.	mǔ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ.íjí ngêya	mǔ-lɔ.ɔlungɔ.íjîyêya	in the possession of all five of us
77.	tǐ-ve.engɔ.íná pôoma	tǐ-ve.engɔ.ínâwôoma	behind both of them there
78.	tǐ-na.aningɔ.íjîsià nduahú	tǐ-na.aningɔ.íjîsiàluahú	between all these four of them
79.	tavâ`lɔ́.ɔ̂li.íjîsià hu	tavâ`lɔ́.ɔ̂li.íjîsiàhu	in these five pipes
80.	kalǒ.íyèésáw.ɛ.í hu	kalǒ.íyèésáw.ɛ.îhu	inside the third basin
81.	kamɔ́.íyèésáw.ɛ.í pôoma	kamɔ́.íyèésáw.ɛ.îwôoma	behind the third teacher
82.	yeésàw.a-yee.é ngêya	yeésàw.a-yee.êyêya	in the possession of the third one of them
83.	ndopô.î-loma ná.âni ma	ndopô.î-loma`ná.âni.îma	on the boy's four shirts
84.	hótɛ.î-lava fel.é hu	hótɛ.î-lava`fel.é.îhu	in the guest's two pipes
85.	nyahɛ̂.î-vɛɛ yelá hu	nyahɛ̂.î-vɛɛ`yelɛ́.îhu	in the woman's one pot

Now try tests 50, 51 and 52.

CHAPTER TEN

THE VERB 'to be', PART ONE

In order to express location in the form of a complete sentence, a construction of the type that uses the verb yɛ̀ 'to be' is used. The sentence takes the following form: Subject, (yɛ̀), Locative Expression. The Locative Expression can be either a place such as 'here' or 'there' or a noun with one of the locative postpositions added. There is the peculiar complication that the yɛ of this verb yɛ̀ is always omitted in the present tense form leaving only ˋ which causes a downstep between two high vowels. The sequence (v́ˋv́) becomes (¯¯). (ˋ) causes preceding polarized vowels to be high. When ˋ is not over a vowel it can only cause certain tonal behavior in the vowels in its immediate proximity. Even the ˋ which is derived from yɛ̀ is omitted under the conditions stated below.

In addition to yɛ̀ (when it occurs) and the Locative Expression, there is an emphatic particle 1.ɔ́ suffixed to the noun or pronoun that is the subject and a new set of pronouns is used with the form â*, occurring between the pronoun and 1.ɔ́. Adding further to our difficulties, after the pronouns and â, the 1 of 1.ɔ́ is deleted and the .ɔ́ becomes .á through assimilation.

The pronouns used in Locative Sentences are almost identical with the possessive pronouns that occur before N2 and N3 nouns; t is found here rather than ngǐ. These pronouns are called the alpha pronouns.

Alpha Pronoun Base Forms

nyá
bí
t
mǔ
wǔ
tǐ

The form, â, attached to the pronoun is required to permit the pronouns to be used with 1.ɔ́ in a locative sentence. Falling tone is marked on â here not because it is ever heard that way but because there is a downstep between â and .á (from 1.ɔ́). Observe the pronouns with â and 1.ɔ́ which is shown here as .á. The form 1.ɔ́ never follows these pronouns without contracting to .á.

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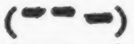
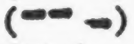
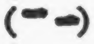
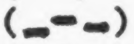
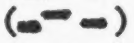
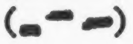
*This â may in some way stand for a second yɛ̀ in the sentence that marks the sentence as affirmative. More on this in yɛ̀, Part Two, Chapter Eighteen.

Alpha Pronoun, â and 1.ɔ́

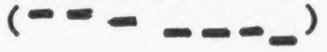
nyáâ.á	
bíâ.á	
tâ.á	
mǔâ.á	
wǔâ.á	
tǐâ.á	

Notice the tonal bars that result from the interpretation of the tonal mapping symbols. All of the Exercises that follow will be in present time. In order to illustrate the continuity of tonal mapping clearly, no spaces will be left between words.

Note: Whenever a pronoun follows the ` which represents yɛ̀, the ` is deleted. That includes a pronoun in any form and the locatives béi 'here' and nà 'there'.

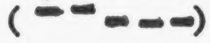
Study the following:

1. nyáâ.á`pɛ́lɛ.îbu — I am in the house.

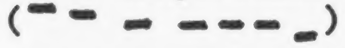


but

nyáâ.ábéi — I am here

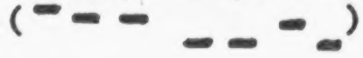


2. tâ.á`hákpɛ.ínâhu — It is in that soup.

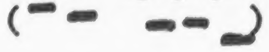


but

tâ.ányâ-hakpɛ.îhu — It is in my soup.

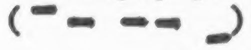


3. tâ.á`njéyêya — It is the goat's.



but

tâ.ányáyêya — It is mine.



The complete deletion of tense markers that occur before pronouns (including 'prolocatives') is a general rule that applies also to the tenses introduced in Chapter Twelve.

Specimen Sentences

ndɔgbɔ̌.îhundɛndɛ̌.îgbatɛ̂lɛ̀.î-miatɔmí-mia.à`pé.e`1.ɔ́nà means 'Tommy will make a boat in the forest'. Literally, however, it reads: 'in the forest--it is boat making--it is Tommy--he will do it there'. This is the type of sentence that can be found in the Narratives at the front of the book. The sentence at the top of this paragraph comes from the sentence tɔmí.àndɛndɛ̌.ȋgbatɛ̂`1.ɔ́`ndɔgbɔ̌.ȋhu, 'Tommy will make a boat in the forest'. The first sentence comes from the second. Their basic meaning is the same, but the first one has stylistic and emphatic devices that the second does not have. It is quite clear, however, that the meaning of the two sentences indicates a close-relationship between the two. In the next few pages, the first of a series of specimen sentences will be presented. These are the sentences from which 'real Mende' is made. The sentences have been selected on the basis of vocabulary, tone types and grammatical construction with the intention of preparing the student for the production of more complex Mende sentences. It is not suggested that the following sentences are necessarily of any immediate conversational value. Unlike the group of Phrases at the beginning of this course, the intention here is not to ask students to memorize useful sentences, but to equip students to create and understand new sentences. Some of the specimen sentences that follow in the drills may seem funny, unreasonable and out of place. Indeed, unlike a conversation which is expected to be concerned with one subject at a time, drills producing specimen sentences jump from topic to topic according to the items selected to permit the drilling of isolated grammatical constructions.

Of course, no 'bad' sentences have been introduced in the drills. Each sentence has been read, spoken aloud and justified by one or more native speakers of Mende. It is simply that the style of these specimen sentences is less complicated (and less interesting to Mende ears) than the complicated shifting and replacement illustrated in the first sentence of this section.

A Note on the Orthography

It was never intended that one should learn to read or write Mende with this orthography. The transcription is to be studied and its system must be learned. The student should not learn the transcription of each item, but instead should learn the sentences which the transcription guides him to produce. It is especially necessary that the student be aware of the consonant deletions to be found increasingly in the following sentences. Listen carefully to your teacher and the recorded tapes. There will be more on this in Chapter Twelve.

More on Length

Listen carefully for length in words that have two vowels and no intervening consonant (e.g. haǎ 'die', paǎ 'kill'). In careful speech these vowels are often lengthened and seem to be like words that are written like pɛ́.ɛ 'house' in this transcription. Length has not been marked in these words because there are many times when these words are pronounced without any lengthening, unlike pɛ́.ɛ which must always be long when the l is deleted.

Add to your vocabulary:

béi, mbéi	here
nà	there

Drill I. In this exercise change the possessive pronoun to the correct alpha pronoun with â and .á (from 1.ɔ́) and add the specified location.

1.	ngǐ nà	tâ.ánà	He is there.
2.	nyá béi	nyáâ.ábéi	I am here.
3.	tǐ nà	tǐâ.ánà	They are there.
4.	mǔ béi	mǔâ.ábéi	We are here.
5.	bí nà	bíâ.ánà	You are there.
6.	nyá béi	nyáâ.ábéi	I am here.
7.	ngǐ béi	tâ.ábéi	He is here.
8.	tǐ nà	tǐâ.ánà	They are there.
9.	mǔ béi	mǔâ.ábéi	We are here.
10.	ngǐ béi	tâ.ábéi	He is here.
11.	ngǐ nà	tâ.ánà	He is there.
12.	tǐ béi	tǐâ.ábéi	They are here.
13.	bí béi	bíâ.ábéi	You are here.
14.	nyá nà	nyáâ.ánà	I am there.
15.	ngǐ nà	tâ.ánà	He is there.

Drill II. Form locative sentences from the following items. (\` from yɛ̀ is not deleted.)

1.	ngǐ pél.ɛ.í mbu	tâ.á\` pél.ɛ.îbu	He is in the house.

2.	nyá mbɛtɛ̌.í mbu	nyáâ.á`mbɛtɛ̌.îbu	I am under the watch tower.
3.	ngǐ jagbɛ.í hu	tâ.á`jagbɛ.îhu	It is in the basin.
4.	tǐ gbahɛ́.í ma	tǐâ.á`gbahɛ́.îma	They are on the bridge.
5.	mǔ pɛ́l.ɛ.í nda	mǔâ.á`pɛ́l.ɛ.îla	We are at the door of the house.
6.	ngǐ fáji.í mbu	tâ.á`fáji.îbu	It is under the bucket.
7.	ngǐ kɔl.ɛ̌.í hu	tâ.á`kɔlɛ̌.îhu	It is in the book.
8.	tǐ fulɛ.í hu	tǐâ.á`fulɛ.îhu	They are in the village.
9.	ngǐ ŋanyɛ̌.í hu	tâ.á`ŋanyɛ̌.îhu	It is in the sand.
10.	bí mɔtó.í hu	bíâ.á`mɔtó.îhu	You are in the car.

Drill III. Form locative sentences from the following items.

1.	tǐ fulɛ.í jí hu	tǐâ.á`fulɛ.íjîhu	They are in this village.
2.	ngǐ ngú.lɛ.í jí hu	tâ.á`ngú.lɛ.íjîhu	It is in this oil.

3.	tǐ bafɛ.í ná hu	tǐâ.á`bafɛ.ínâhu	They are in that hut.
4.	ngǐ fɛɛ̌.í ná mbu	tâ.á`fɛɛ̌.ínâbu	It is under that pot.
5.	nyá pel.ĕ.í jí ma	nyáâ.á`pel.ĕ.íjîma	I am on this road.
6.	mǔ ndɔgbɔ̌.í jí hu	mǔâ.á`ndɔgbɔ̆.íjîhu	We are in this forest.
7.	ngǐ hákpɛ.í ná hu	tâ.á`hákpɛ.ínâhu	It is in that soup.
8.	tǐ mbekĕ.í jí mbu	tǐâ.á`mbekĕ.íjîbu	They are under this branch.
9.	ngǐ sani.í jí hu	tâ.á`sani.íjîhu	It is in this bottle.
10.	ngǐ kol.ě.í jí nga	tâ.á`kol.ě.íjîya	It is on this fireplace.

Drill IV. Form locative sentences from these items.

1.	tǐ nikɛ̌.í ná sià ma	tǐâ.á`nikɛ.ínâsiàma	They are on those cows.

2.	ngǐ ngúl.i.í ná sià mbu	tâ.á`ngúl.i.ínâsiàbu	He is under those trees.
3.	tǐ bafɛ.í ná sià hu	tǐâ.á`bafɛ.ínâsiàhu	They are in those huts.
4.	ngǐ ndomɛ̌.í jí sià ma	tâ.á`ndomɛ̌.íjîsiàma	It is on these shirts.
5.	tǐ pɛ́l.ɛ.í ná sià bu	tǐâ.á`pɛ́l.ɛ.ínâsiàbu	They are in those houses.
6.	tǐ kɔtǐ.í jí sià mbu	tǐâ.á`kɔtǐ.íjîsiàbu	They are under these stones.
7.	tǐ ngál.ɛ.í ná sià ma	tǐâ.á`ngál.ɛ.ínâsiàma	They are on those mats.
8.	ngǐ hagbɛ̌.í ná sià mahú	tâ.á`hagbɛ̌.ínâsiàmahú	It is above those rabbits.
9.	tǐ ngetê.í jí sià hu	tǐâ.á`ngetê.íjîsiàhu	They are in these pestles.

10.	tǐ mbówɛ.í ná sià nga	tǐâ.áˋmbówɛ.ínâsiàya	They are on those knife blades.

Drill V. Form locative sentences with the following items. (yɛ̀ and ˋ are omitted before any kind of pronoun.)

1.	bí nyáwôoma	bíâ.ányáwôoma	You are behind me.
2.	ngǐ bíwùmba	tâ.ábíwùmbá	It is on top of you.
3.	nyá bíwôoma	nyáâ.ábíwôoma	I am behind you.
4.	mǔ tǐlùahú	mǔâ.átǐlùahú	We are between them.
5.	nyá tǐgù.lɔ́	nyáâ.átǐgù.lɔ́	I am in front of them.
6.	ngǐ nyáyêya	tâ.ányáyêya	It is mine.
7.	tǐ ngǐyêya	tǐâ.ángǐyêya	They are his.
8.	ngǐ tǐgòhú	tâ.átǐgòhú	It is in the insides of them.
9.	mǔ tǐlía	mǔâ.átǐlía	We are in the middle of them.
10.	tǐ nyámàhú	tǐâ.ányámàhú	They are above me.

Drill VI. When a noun, noun compound or possessive complex is the subject of a locative sentence, the l.ɔ́ form is connected directly onto the last element of the noun, compound or complex. Where the last element is .í, ná or jí, the tone mark of the last element becomes ^. (yɛ̀ and ˋ are omitted before béi and nà.)

1.	fɔtó.í nà	fɔtó.îl.ɔ́nà	The photo is there.
2.	fɛɛ̌.í béi	fɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́béi	The pot is here.
3.	han.ǐ.í nà	han.ǐ.îl.ɔ́nà	The thing is there.

4.	kpolǐ.í nà	kpǒlǐ.îl.ɔ́nà	The worm is there.
5.	pel.ě.í nà	pel.ě.îl.ɔ́nà	The road is there.
6.	fáji.í béi	fáji.îl.ɔ́béi	The bucket is here.
7.	kóni.í béi	kóni.îl.ɔ́béi	The ax is here.
8.	kpúnyɛ.í nà	kpúnyɛ.îl.ɔ́nà	The charcoal is there.
9.	pɛ́l.ɛ.í béi	pɛ́l.ɛ.îl.ɔ́béi	The house is here.
10.	pujɛ.í nà	pujɛ.îl.ɔ́nà	The pepper is there.
11.	pujɛ.í jí béi	pujɛ.íjîl.ɔ́béi	This pepper is here.
12.	ji.î.í ná nà	ji.î.ínâl.ɔ́nà	That key is there.
13.	ngetê.í ná nà	ngetê.ínâl.ɔ́nà	That pestle is here.
14.	bɔndɛ́.í jí béi	bɔndɛ́.íjîl.ɔ́béi	This okra is here.
15.	kɔl.ɛ̌.í ná nà	kɔl.ɛ̌.ínâl.ɔ́nà	That book is there.
16.	ngú.lɛ.í ná nà	ngúlɛ.ínâl.ɔ́nà	That oil is there.
17.	tǐngɔ̂ béi	tǐngɔ̂l.ɔ́béi	Their elder brother is here.
18.	bímàmâ nà	bímàmâl.ɔ́béi	Your grandmother is here.
19.	bíndêw.é béi	bíndêw.él.ɔ́béi	Your brother is here.
20.	nyánǰé béi	nyánǰél.ɔ́béi	My mother is here.

21.	mǔkɛkɛ̌ béi	mǔkɛkɛ̌l.ɔ́béi	Our father is here.
22.	ngǐ-lavɛ.í nà	ngǐ-lavɛ.îl.ɔ́nà	His pipe is there.

Drill VII.

1.	ngǐ-lavɛ.í pɛ́l.ɛ.í mbu	ngǐ-lavɛ.îl.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	His pipe is in the house.
2.	ngǐ-lomɛ.í ndól.i.í ma	ngǐ-lomɛ.îl.ɔ́`ndól.i.îma	His shirt is on the hook.
3.	ngǐ-lomɛ.íjí ndól.i.íjí ma	ngǐ-lomɛ.íjîl.ɔ́`ndól.i.íjîma	This shirt of his is on this hook.
4.	nyákênya pel.ɛ̌.íná ma	nyákênyal.ɔ́`pel.ɛ̌.ínâma	My uncle is on this road.
5.	ngǐ-jani.íná sɔ́ku.í hu	ngǐ-jani.ínâl.ɔ́`sɔ́ku.îhu	That bottle of hers is in the corner.
6.	nyâ-vakal.i.í ba.lɛ̂.í hu	nyâ-vakal.i.îl.ɔ́`ba.lɛ̂.îhu	My pawpaw is in the basket.
7.	bî-hotɛ.í pɛ́l.ɛ.í mbu	bî-hotɛ.îl.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	Your guest is in the house.
8.	nyâ-gɔl.ɛ.íná pɛ́l.ɛ.í mbu	nyâ-gɔl.ɛ.ínâl.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	That book of mine is in the house.
9.	nikɛ̌.ínâsià nyáyêya	nikɛ̌.ínâsiàl.ɔ́nyáyêya	Those cows are mine.
10.	ndomɛ̌.íjîsià ngǐyêya	ndomɛ̌.íjîsiàl.ɔ́ngǐyêya	These shirts are his.
11.	sani.ínâsià ngǐyêya	sani.ínâsiàl.ɔ́ngǐyêya	Those bottles are hers.
12.	fɛɛ̌.íjîsià tǐyêya	fɛɛ̌.íjîsiàl.ɔ́tǐyêya	These pots are theirs.
13.	bɛlɛ.íjîsià nyáyêya	bɛlɛ.íjîsiàl.ɔ́nyáyêya	These trousers are mine.

14.	mitɛ̌.ínâsià ngǐyêya	mitɛ̌.ínâsiàl.ɔ́ngǐyêya	Those spoons are hers.
15.	yeémìni.íjîsià mǔyêya	yeémìni.íjîsiàl.ɔ́mǔyêya	These beads are ours.
16.	mbɛɛ̌.íná nyáǹjéyêya	mbɛɛ̌.ínâl.ɔ́nyáǹjéyêya	That rice is my mother's.
17.	bɔlɛ.îsià bíkênyayêya	bɔlɛ.îsiàl.ɔ́bíkênyayêya	The hats are your uncle's.
18.	fɛɛ̌.íjîsià ngǐmàmâyêya	fɛɛ̌.íjîsiàl.ɔ́ngǐmàmâyêya	These pots are her grandmother's.
19.	ngáwi.ínâsià bíǹjéyêya	ngáwi.ínâsiàl.ɔ́bíǹjéyêya	Those eggs are your mother's.
20.	kpitǐ-yal.ɛ.íná tǐyêya	kpitǐ-yal.ɛ.ínâl.ɔ́tǐyêya	That grass mat is theirs.
21.	kpitǐ-yee.éná tǐyêya	kpitǐ-yee.énâl.ɔ́tǐyêya	That grass one is theirs.
22.	kpitǐ-yee.éná nyáǹjéyêya	kpitǐ-yee.énâl.ɔ́nyáǹjéyêya	That grass one is my mother's.
23.	tǐ-ja.angɔ.íjí nyáyêya	tǐ-ja.angɔ.íjîl.ɔ́nyáyêya	All these three of them are mine.

Drill VIII. Form sentences with the following items.

1.	kalǐ.í fɛɛ̌.îbu	kalǐ.îl.ɔ́\` fɛɛ̌.îbu	The snake is under the pot
2.	mbɛɛ̌.í fáji.íjîhu	mbɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́\` fáji.íjîhu	The rice is in this bucket.
3.	tǐ pɛ́l.ɛ.ínâla	tǐâ.á\` pɛ́l.ɛ.ínâla	They are at the door of that house.
4.	pundî.îsià nikɛ̌.íjîma	pundî.îsiàl.ɔ́\` nikɛ̌.íjîma	The mosquitoes are on this cow.
5.	kual.ǎ\`ná.âni.ínâsià ngǐyêya	kual.ǎ\`ná.âni.ínâsiàl.ɔ́ngǐyêya	Those four monkeys are his.
6.	mbaǎ-hiw.i.í nà	mbaǎ-hiw.i.îl.ɔ́nà	The rice heap is there.
7.	ndóndɛ.îhókpɛ.í patɛ́.îhu	ndóndɛ.îhókpɛ.îl.ɔ́\` patɛ́.îhu	The pig's nose is in the mud.
8.	kpandɛ̂.í kulɛ̌.íjîbu	kpandɛ̂.îl.ɔ́\` kulɛ̌.íjîbu	The gun is under this cloth.

9.	nyákênya gbahɛ́.íjîma	nyákênyal.ɔ́` gbahɛ́.íjîma	My uncle is on this bridge.
10.	kɔlɛ̌.í kulɛ̌.íjîma	kɔlɛ̌.îl.ɔ́` kulɛ̌.íjîma	The book is on this cloth.
11.	mǔ mbɛtɛ̌.îbu	mǔâ.á` mbɛtɛ̌.îbu	We are under the watch tower.
12.	kɔ́w.i.ínâsià jagbɛ.îmahú	kɔ́w.i.ínâsiàl.ɔ́` jagbɛ.îmahú	Those boxes are above the basin.
13.	mbówɛ.îsià béi	mbówɛ.îsiàl.ɔ́béi	The knives are here.
14.	yeéngú.lɛ.íná nyánj̀éyêya	yeéngú.lɛ.ínâl.ɔ́nyánj̀éyêya	My mother has that oil.
15.	yeéhàl.a-yee.é nyáwôoma	yeéhàl.a-yee.êl.ɔ́nyáwôoma	The first one is behind me.
16.	kpayɛ̌.í ngǐwumbá	kpayɛ̌.îl.ɔ́ngǐwumbá	The headtie is on her head.
17.	ηɔnǐ.îsià ngǐmahú	ηɔnǐ.îsiàl.ɔ́ngǐmahú	The birds are above him.
18.	ngú.lɛ.í sani.îgohú	ngú.lɛ.îl.ɔ́` sani.îgohú	The oil is inside the bottle.
19.	fɛɛ̌.í bî-yɔmbu.îya	fɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́bî-yɔmbu.îya	The pot is on your fire.
20.	nyá núm.u.íjîwôoma	nyáâ.á` núm.u.íjîwôoma	I am behind this person.
21.	gil.î.í nyɛ́.íjîsiàluahú	gil.î.îl.ɔ́` nyɛ́.íjîsiàluahú	The driver ant is between these fish.

(Tests 53, 54 and 55)

CHAPTER ELEVEN

PRESENT TIME

Locative sentences and sentences expressing present time are quite similar. Note the similarities and differences.

1. The subject is followed by *l.ɔ́.*
2. The same alpha pronouns are used.
3. The *â* form is used with the alpha pronouns.
4. *yɛ* is omitted and is represented by *ˋ* (except before pronouns).
5. The postposition is always *ma* and in the case of intransitive verbs *ma* gets its pitch from sharing the tone type of the vowel that it follows.
6. *ma* is always low (*mà*) after a verb used transitively.
7. Unlike unpossessed nouns, intransitive verbs have consonant mutation.
8. *yɛ̀* or *ˋ* is deleted before pronouns and possessed objects.

Add these intransitive verbs to your vocabulary:

pǎ	come, Vint
ndǐ	go, Vint
kíl.i	think, Vint
kulǎ	fall, Vint
haǎ	die, Vint

The *Vint* following the translation tells you that the word in question is a verb and has at least the potential of being used intransitively. *Remember that intransitive verbs have consonant mutation.*

It is implied here that present time sentences are more like locative sentences than sentences in other tenses and aspects. The structure is certainly similar and the meaning of present time sentences is also partly locative in nature. This is discussed in Chapter Ten.

Drill I. Put the following verbs in this frame: bíâ.á_____ma

1.	haǎ	bíâ.áˋhaǎma You are dying.
2.	ndǐ	bíâ.áˋlǐma You are going.
3.	kulǎ	bíâ.áˋgulǎma You are falling.

4.	kíl.i	bíâ.á`gíl.ima You are thinking.
5.	pǎ	bíâ.á`wǎma You are coming.
6.	kulǎ	bíâ.á`gulǎma You are falling.
7.	kíl.i	bíâ.á`gíl.ima You are thinking.
8.	ndǐ	bíâ.á`lǐma You are going.
9.	haǎ	bíâ.á`haǎma You are dying.
10.	pǎ	bíâ.á`wǎma You are coming.

Drill II. Put the following verbs into present time sentences with the specified pronouns as subjects.

1.	nyá kulǎ	nyáâ.á`gulǎma I am falling.
2.	bí kíl.i	bíâ.á`gíl.ima You are thinking.
3.	ngǐ haǎ	tâ.á`haǎma He is dying.
4.	tǐ ndǐ	tǐâ.á`lǐma They are going.
5.	wǔ pǎ	wǔâ.á`wǎma You (pl.) are coming.
6.	ngǐ haǎ	tâ.á`haǎma He is dying.
7.	bí kulǎ	bíâ.á`gulǎma You are falling.

8.	nyá kíl.i	nyáâ.á`gíl.ima I am thinking.
9.	mǔ ndǐ	mǔâ.á`lǐma We are going.

<u>Drill III.</u> Put the following verbs into present time sentences with the specified nouns as subjects.

1.	nyahɛ̂.í kíl.i	nyahɛ̂.îl.ɔ́`gíl.ima The woman is thinking.
2.	ŋɔnǐ.îyáwi.í kulǎ	ŋɔnǐ.îyáwi.îl.ɔ́`gulǎma The bird's own egg is falling.
3.	njé.î-lo.í haǎ	njé.î-lo.îl.ɔ́`haǎma The goat's offspring is dying.
4.	mahɛ̌.î-nyahɛ.í ndǐ	mahɛ̌.î-nyahɛ.îl.ɔ́`lǐma The chief's wife is going.
5.	nikɛ̌.î-gul.i.í kulǎ	nikɛ̌.î-gul.i.îl.ɔ́`gulǎma The cow's shed is falling.
6.	kal.ǐ.íjí haǎ	kal.ǐ.íjîl.ɔ́`haǎma This snake is dying.
7.	núm.u.íná pǎ	núm.u.ínâl.ɔ́`wǎma That person is coming.
8.	nyahɛ̂.îsià ndǐ	nyahɛ̂.îsiàl.ɔ́`lǐma These wives are going.
9.	ngǐ kíl.i	tâ.á`gíl.ima He is thinking.

A number of intransitive verbs have the meaning of 'to become _____' when used in these present time sentences. Present time sentences with these verbs are not often encountered but it is important that the student be introduced to them now.

Add these intransitive verbs to your vocabulary:

hitǐ	become mature (ripen, mature)
kol.ě	become clean, white
kpakpǎ	become woody, fibrous
kpɔvɔ̂	become healthy (flourish)
mbé	become dry
minǐ	become heavy
ngejě	become stale
ngóva	become old
nyámu	become bad, ugly
nyandě	become beautiful
tɛl.ǐ	become black

Drill IV. Put the following verbs into present time sentences with the specified noun or pronoun.

1. ngǐ
   hitǐ — tâ.áˋhitǐma
   It is ripening.

2. fakâl.i.í
   hitǐ — fakâl.i.îl.ɔ́ˋhitǐma
   The pawpaw is ripening.

3. ngǐ
   kol.ě — tâ.áˋgol.ěma
   It is becoming white.

4. kulɛ̌.í
   kol.ě — kulɛ̌.îl.ɔ́ˋgol.ěma
   The cloth is becoming white.

5. ngǐ
   kpakpǎ — tâ.áˋgbakpǎma
   It is becoming fibrous.

6. tangɛ̌.í
   kpakpǎ — tangɛ̌.îl.ɔ́ˋgbakpǎma
   The cassava is becoming fibrous.

7. ngǐ
   kpɔvɔ̂ — tâ.áˋgbɔvɔ̂ma
   It is becoming healthy.

8.	mbɛɛ̌.í kpɔvɔ̂	mbɛɛ̌.î`gbɔvɔ̂ma The rice is becoming healthy.
9.	mbɛɛ̌.í mbé	mbɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`béma The rice is becoming dry.
10.	haâkɛ.í minǐ	haâkɛ.îl.ɔ́`mìnǐma The load is becoming heavy.
11.	mbɛɛ̌.í ngejě	mbɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`yejěma The rice is becoming stale.
12.	mah.ɛ̌.í ngóva	mah.ɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`wóvama The chief is becoming old.
13.	hótɛ.î-lomɛ.í nyámu	hótɛ.î-lomɛ.îl.ɔ́`nyámuma The guest's shirt is becoming ugly.
14.	mbakɛ̌.îwó.í nyanděma	mbakɛ̌.îwó.îl.ɔ́`nyanděma The accordian's sound is becoming beautiful.
15.	fɛɛ̌.í tɛl.ǐ	fɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`lɛl.ǐma The pot is becoming black.

The object of a transitive verb is connected to the verb exactly as a possessive N2 noun is connected to its possessor. The so-called possessive pronouns occur as pronoun objects (the nyá, bí set) and consonant mutation of the verb occurs. When the object is a pronoun, there is no downstep before the pronoun. The ` from yɛ̀ is deleted and .í, jí and ná do not change their tones to ^ before pronoun objects. As a general rule there is a downstep from some source between the subject and predicate unless the predicate is a pronoun (or begins with a pronoun). As the course goes on, the sources of these downsteps will be shown.

When ma is used with a transitive verb its tone is always low: mà. It does not share the tone of what precedes it, e.g. tâ.á`bájimà (‾ - - - _) 'He is making it yellow.'.

Add these to your vocabulary:

báji	make yellow; Vtr (become yellow; Vint)
fâl.i	sow
fɔnî	pinch
fúka	grind
hɔ́l.ɔ	sew
kɔlɛ̌	divide
kɔ̂l.i	pluck, pick out
kpatɛ̂	make, repair
kpê	look at
kpɛ́	chase
kpuǎ	pull out, pluck
kú	smell
mɛ̌	eat
ngál.i	break
ngéya	buy
ngíl.i	cook
paǎ	kill
pɔ́	fell
ndew.ě	beat
tɛ́	raise, (lift)
toǒ	stand, erect, build

Drill V. Form present time sentences (tr.) with the following verbs. The subject should be the third person singular alpha pronoun t and the object as specified.

1.	kulɛ̌.í báji	tâ.á`kulɛ̌.îbájimà She is making the cloth yellow.
2.	mbɛɛ̌.í fâl.i	tâ.á`mbɛɛ̌.îvâl.imà He is sowing the rice.
3.	mbɛɛ̌.í kú	tâ.á`mbɛɛ̌.îgúmà He is smelling the rice.
4.	ndó.í fɔnî	tâ.á`ndó.îvɔnîmà He is pinching the child.
5.	mbɛɛ̌.í fúka	tâ.á`mbɛɛ̌.îvúkamà She is grinding the rice.

6.	kulɛ̌.í hɔ́l.ɔ	tâ.á`kulɛ̌.îhɔ́l.ɔmà She is sewing the cloth.
7.	mbɛɛ̌.í kɔlɛ̌	tâ.á`mbɛɛ̌.îgɔlɛ̌mà She is dividing the rice.
8.	sâlo.í kɔ̂l.i	tâ.á`sâlo.îgɔ̂l.imà He is picking an orange.
9.	gbɛhɛ́.í kpatɛ̂	tâ.á`gbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂mà He is repairing the stool.
10.	bûku.í kpê	tâ.á`bûku.îgbêmà He is looking at the book.
11.	nyɛ́.í kpɛ́	tâ.á`nyɛ́.îgbɛ́mà He is chasing fish (fishing).
12.	tɛ́.í kpuǎ	tâ.á`tɛ́.îgbuǎmà He is releasing the chicken.
13.	hákpɛ.í kú	tâ.á`hákpɛ.îgúmà She is smelling the sauce.
14.	kokó.í mɛ̌	tâ.á`kokó.îmɛ̌mà He is eating the koko.
15.	sani.í ngál.i	tâ.á`sani.îyál.imà He is breaking the bottle.
16.	kulǎ ngéya	tâ.á`kulǎyéyamà She is buying a dress.
17.	tangɛ̌.í ngíl.i	tâ.á`tangɛ̌.îyíl.imà She is cooking the cassava.
18.	pundî.í paǎ	tâ.á`pundî.îwaǎmà She is killing the mosquito.

19.	ngúl.i.í pɔ́	tâ.á`ngúl.i.îwɔ́mà He is felling the tree.
20.	ndó.í ndew.ě	tâ.á`ndó.îlew.ěmà He is beating the child.
21.	tɛ́.í tɛ́	tâ.á`tɛ́.îlɛ́mà She is lifting the chicken.
22.	pɛ́lɛ.í toǒ	tâ.á`pɛ́lɛ.îloǒmà He is building a house.

Drill VI. Form present time sentences (tr.) with the following verbs and the subjects and objects specified.

1.	mahɛ̌.í pundî.í paǎ	mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`pundî.îwaǎmà The chief is killing the mosquito.
2.	nyákênya sɛ́lɛ.í mɛ̌	nyákênyal.ɔ́`sɛ́lɛ.îmɛ̌mà My uncle is eating the banana.
3.	kamɔ́.í bûku.í kpê	kamɔ́.îl.ɔ́`bûku.îgbêmà The teacher is looking at the book.
4.	hiîndo.ínâsià nyɛ́.í kpɛ́	hiîndo.ínâsiàl.ɔ́`nyɛ́.îgbɛ́mà Those men are fishing.
5.	ndó.í mbɛɛ̌.í ngéya	ndó.îl.ɔ́`mbɛɛ̌.îyéyamà The child is buying rice.
6.	nyâpo.í kulɛ̌.í bája	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`kulɛ̌.îbájimà The woman is making the cloth yellow.
7.	nyâpo.í ketě.í fúka	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`ketě.îvúkamà The woman is grinding the guinea corn.

8.	ndó.í fakâ.i.í kə̂l.i	ndó.îl.ɔ́ˋfakâ.i.îgə̂l.imà The child is picking the pawpaw.
9.	nyámàmá nɔtɔ mɛ̌	nyámàmál.ɔ́ˋnɔtɔmɛ̌mà My grandmother is eating the mussel.
10.	nyánj̀é tɛ́.í paǎ	nyánj̀él.ɔ́ˋtɛ́.îwaǎmà My mother is killing the chicken.

Deleted Objects

Any noun phrase* that does not refer to a human being, that occurs before a transitive verb, can be deleted and replaced by 1) a downstep in tone, here indicated by _̀ (from .ì), 2) no consonant mutation on the initial consonant or consonant cluster. Looking at it another way, consonant mutation does not 'happen' unless some noun phrase ('object') precedes the transitive verb. Non-human objects, _̀, are pronouns and yɛ̀ or _̀ is deleted. Since _̀ (from .ì) is a pronoun, the _̀ (from yɛ̀) is deleted before it.

Drill VII. In the following exercise, delete the object in the sentence you are given.

1.	nyánj̀él.ɔ́ˋtɛ́.îwaǎmà	nyánj̀él.ɔ́ˋpaǎmà My mother is killing it.
2.	nyámàmál.ɔ́ˋnɔtɔ.îmɛ̌mà	nyámàmál.ɔ́ˋmɛ̌mà My grandmother is eating it.
3.	nyahɛ̂.îl.ɔ́ˋmbɛɛ̌.îyéyamà	nyahɛ̂.îl.ɔ́ˋngéyamà The woman is buying it.
4.	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́ˋkulɛ̌.îbájimà	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́ˋbájimà The woman is making it yellow.
5.	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́ˋketě.îvúkamà	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́ˋfúkamà The woman is grinding it.
6.	ndó.îl.ɔ́ˋfakâ.i.îgə̂l.imà	ndó.îl.ɔ́ˋkə̂l.imà The child is picking it.

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*noun, pronoun, compound, possessive complex, enumerated noun, etc.

7.	tâ.á`tɛ́.îlɛ́mà	tâ.á`tɛ́mà She is lifting it.
8.	nyákênyal.ɔ́`sɛ́lɛ.îmɛ̌mà	nyákênyal.ɔ́`mɛ̌mà My uncle is eating it.
9.	mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`kalǐ.îwaǎmà	mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`paǎmà The chief is killing it.
10.	kamɔ́.îl.ɔ́`bûku.îgbêmà	kamɔ́.îl.ɔ́`kpêmà The teacher is looking at it.
11.	tâ.á`hákpɛ îgúmà	tâ.á`kúmà She is smelling it.
12.	tǐâ.á`ngúl.i.îyál.imà	tǐâ.á`ngál.imà They are breaking it.
13.	tâ.á`kulǎyéyamà	tâ.á`ngéyamà She is buying it.
14.	tâ.á`pundî.îwaǎmà	tâ.á`paǎmà He is killing it.
15.	tâ.á`motó.îgbatɛ̂mà	tâ.á`kpatɛ̂mà He is repairing it.
16.	mǔâ.á`ngúl.i.îwɔ́mà	mǔâ.á`pɔ́mà We are felling it.
17.	tǐâ.á`mbɛɛ̌.îvâl.imà	tǐâ.á`fâl.imà They are sowing it.
18.	hiîndo.îl.ɔ́`nikɛ̌.îwaǎmà	niîndo.îl.ɔ́`paǎmà The man is killing it.
19.	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`kulɛ̌.îhɔ́l.ɔmà	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`hɔ́l.ɔmà The woman is sewing it.
20.	tâ.á`sâlo.îgɔ̂l.imà	tâ.á`kɔ̂l.imà He is picking it.

Notice that the object is deleted when it refers to anything but a person. The deletion of an object results in the meaning 'it' which is in Mende decisively non-human. To delete the name or title of a person is perfectly possible but the resulting sentence is usually considered as a direct and premeditated insult to the person whose name or title you have deleted.

Add the following to your vocabulary:

kulǎ	drop; Vtr (Vint)
téw.e	cut; Vtr
pawa	pay (wages, person or bill, the initial p̲ does not mutate); (Vtr)
muâ	bathe; Vtr

Throughout the remainder of this chapter, new words will be introduced without previous listing. It is intended that the student begin to use the lexicon extensively to look up the words he does not know.

Drill VIII. Form present time sentences with the following transitive verbs and their subjects. The object is to be non-human: 'it'.

1. ngǐ
   kulǎ
   tâ.á`kulǎmà
   He is dropping it.

2. mahɛ̌.í
   téw.e
   mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`téw.emà
   The chief is cutting it.

3. tǐ
   pawa
   tǐâ.á`pawamà
   They are paying it.

4. ngǐ
   muâ
   tâ.á`muâmà
   She is bathing it.

5. ndó.í
   fɔnî
   ndó.îl.ɔ́`fɔnîmà
   The child is pinching it.

6. nyâpo.í
   hɔ́l.ɔ
   nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`hɔ́l.ɔmà
   The woman is sewing it.

7. ndó.ínâsià
   mɛ̌
   ndó.ínâsiàl.ɔ́`mɛ̌mà
   Those children are eating it.

8. hiîndo.îsià
   kpatɛ̂
   hiîndo.îsiàl.ɔ́`kpatɛ̂mà
   The men are repairing it.

9. nyahɛ̂.ínâsià
   fúka
   nyahɛ̂.ínâsiàl.ɔ́`fúkamà
   Those women are grinding it.

10. nyâpo.í
ngéya
nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`ngéyamà
The woman is buying it.

11. ngǐ
ngíl.i
tâ.á`ngíl.imà
She is cooking it.

12. ngǐ
fâl.i
tâ.á`fâl.imà
He is sowing it.

13. mahɛ̌.í
kɔ̂l.i
mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`kɔ̂l.imà
The chief is picking it.

14. mǔ
kpê
mǔâ.á`kpêmà
We are looking at it.

15. wǔ
kpuǎ
wǔâ.á`kpuǎmà
You (pl.) are pulling it out.

16. hiîndo.í
kpɛ́
hiîndo.îl.ɔ́`kpɛ́mà
The man is chasing it.

17. ngǐ
paǎ
tâ.á`paǎmà
He is killing it.

18. tǐ
kɔlɛ̌
tǐâ.á`kɔlɛ̌mà
They are dividing it.

19. ngǐ
báji
tâ.á`bájimà
She is making it yellow.

Negative Present Time Sentences

The negative form used in these present time sentences is .ì. It combines with the pronouns as follows. (The .ì can be considered to be the negative of yɛ̀ and `.)

nyá	ngí.ì	(¯ _)
bí	bí.ì	(¯ _)
ngǐ	.ì	(_)
	(ngǐ becomes zero, no form)	
mǔ	mǔ.ì or mǔ.ù*	(¯ _)
wǔ	wǔ.ì or wǔ.ù	(¯ _)
tǐ	tǐ.ì	(¯ _)

If the negative .ì has a meaning of its own,it is 'it-is-not'.† The others could be translated ' It is not I, you, we'etc. When the subject of any present time sentence is a pronoun, the pronoun is put into the negative form, the l.ɔ́ or its equivalent .á is deleted.

nyáâ.ábéi	I am here.
ngí.ìbéi	I am not here.
tâ.á` lǐma	He is going.
.ìlǐma	He is not going.
tǐâ.á`kulɛ̌.îhɔ́lɔmà	They are sewing the cloth.
tǐ.ìkulɛ̌.îhɔ́lɔmà	They are not sewing the cloth.

If the subject is anything but a pronoun, the negative form or a pronoun must follow the subject: .ì if the subject is singular, and tǐ.ì if the subject is plural.

mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́béi	The chief is here.
mahɛ̌.î.ìbéi	The chief is not here.
mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́` lǐma	The chief is going.
mahɛ̌.î.ìlǐma	The chief is not going.
mahɛ̌.îsiàl.ɔ́` lǐma	The chiefs are going.
mahɛ̌.îsiàtǐ.ìlǐma	The chiefs are not going.

Often the tones of the negative are altered like kâl.i.í. Kâl.i.í can have the tones (¯ _ –) or (¯ – –). Tǐ.ìbéi can have the same two patterns (¯ _ – –) or (¯ – – –). It is for this reason that the negative marker seems to be very softly pronounced. You may not hear the complete fall of tǐ.ì (¯ _) but you should hear the lengthened ǐ.ì (¯ –).

Drill IX. Make the following sentences negative.

1.	tǐâ.ánà	tǐ.ìnà They are not there.
2.	tâ.ánà	.ìnà He is not there.

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*This assimilated form is very frequently heard, but it is its source, mǔ.ì, that is used henceforth.

†The period before ì does not cause length. It must be between vowels to cause length.

3.	mǔâ.ábéi	mǔ.ìbéi We are not here.
4.	bíâ.ábéi	bí.ìbéi You are not here.
5.	tǐâ.á`pél.ɛ.îbu	tǐ.ìpél.ɛ.îbu They are not in the house.
6.	tâ.á`jagbɛ.îhu	.ìjagbɛ.îhu It is not in the basin.
7.	tâ.á`fáji.îbu	.ìfáji.îbu It is not under the bucket.
8.	mǔâ.á`mbɛtɛ̌.îbu	mǔ.ìmbɛtɛ̌.îbu We are not under the watch tower.
9.	bíâ.á`mɔtó.îhu	bí.ìmɔtó.îhu You are not in the car.
10.	tǐâ.á`fulɛ.îhu	tǐ.ìfulɛ.îhu They are not in the village.
11.	tâ.á`kɔlɛ̌.îhu	.ìkɔ[illegible].îhu It is not in the book.
12.	tǐâ.á`fulɛ.íjîhu	tǐ.ìfulɛ.íjîhu They are not in this village.
13.	tâ.á`fɛɛ̌.ínâbu	.ìfɛɛ̌.ínâbu It is not under that pot.
14.	tâ.á`sani.íjîhu	.ìsani.íjîhu It is not in this bottle.
15.	tǐâ.á`pel.ě.ínâma	tǐ.ìpel.ě.ínâma They are not on that road.
16.	tǐâ.á`bafɛ.ínâsiàbu	tǐ.ìbafɛ.ínâsiàbu They are not in those huts.
17.	tâ.á`ngúl.i.ínâsiàbu	.ìngúl.i.ínâsiàbu He is not under those trees.
18.	bíâ.ányáwɔ̂oma	bí.ìnyáwɔ̂oma You are not behind me.
19.	tâ.átǐgu.lɔ́	.ìtǐgu.lɔ́ He is not in front of them.

20.	mǔâ.ábíwôoma	mǔ.ìbíwôoma We are not behind you.

<u>Drill X.</u> Make the following sentences negative.

1.	pel.ěîl.ɔ́nà	pel.ě.î.ìnà The road is not there.
2.	tɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́nà	fɛɛ̌.î.ìnà The pot is not there.
3.	fáji.îl.ɔ́béi	fáji.î.ìbéi The bucket is not here.
4.	kpúnyɛ.îl.ɔ́nà	kpúnyɛ.î.ìnà The charcoal is not there.
5.	ngǐ-lavɛ.îl.ɔ́béi	ngǐ-lavɛ.î.ìbéi His pipe is not here.
6.	nikɛ̌.ínâsiàl.ɔ́bíyêya	nikɛ̌.ínâsiàtǐ.ìbíyêya Those cows are not yours.
7.	mitɛ̌.ínâsiàl.ɔ́tǐyêya	mitɛ̌.ínâsiàtǐ.ìtǐyêya Those spoons are not theirs.
8.	pundî.îsiàl.ɔ́nìkɛ̌.îma	pundî.îsiàtǐ.ìnikɛ̌.îma The mosquitoes are not on the cow.
9.	mbówɛ.îsiàl.ɔ́béi	mbówɛ.îsiàtǐ.ìbéi The knives aren't here.

<u>Drill XI.</u> Make the following sentences negative.

1.	tâ.á`haǎma	.ìhaǎma He is not dying.
2.	bíâ.á`lǐma	bí.ìlǐma You are not going.
3.	nyáâ.á`gílima	ngí.ìgílima I am not thinking.
4.	mǔâ.á`wǎma	mǔ.ìwǎma We are not coming.
5.	tǐâ.á`gulǎma	tǐ.ìgulǎma They are not falling.
6.	núm.u.ínâl.ɔ́`wǎma	núm.u.ínâ.ìwǎma That person is not coming.

7.	nyahɛ̂.îsiàl.ɔ́` lǐma	nyahɛ̂.îsiàtǐ.ìlǐma The women are not going.
8.	tâ.á`hitǐma	.ìhitǐma It is not ripening.
9.	tǐâ.á`gol.ěma	tǐ.ìgol.ěma They are not becoming white.
10.	fakâl.i.îl.ɔ́`gbakpǎma	fakâl.i.î.ìgbakpǎma The pawpaw is not becoming fibrous.
11.	mbɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`béma	mbɛɛ̌.î.ìbéma The rice is not becoming dry.
12.	mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`wóvama	mahɛ̌.î.ìwóvama The chief is not becoming old.
13.	tâ.á`gbɔvɔ̂ma	.ìgbɔvɔ̂ma It is not becoming healthy.
14.	hiîndo.î-lomɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`nyámuma	hiîndo.î-lomɛ̌.î.ìnyámuma The man's shirt is not becoming ugly.
15.	fɛɛ̌.îsiàl.ɔ́`lɛl.ǐma	fɛɛ̌.îsiàtǐ.ìlɛl.ǐma The pots are not becoming black.
16.	tâ.á`ndó.îvɔnîmà	.ìndó.îvɔnîmà He is not pinching the child.
17.	tâ.á`gbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂mà	.ìgbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂mà He is not repairing the stool.
18.	mǔâ.á`nyɛ́.îgbɛ́mà	mǔ.ìnyɛ́.îgbɛ́mà We are not fishing.
19.	nyáâ.á`sâlo.îgɔ̂l.imà	ngí.ìsâlo.îgɔ̂l.imà I am not picking an orange.
20.	tǐâ.á`ngúl.i.îwɔ́mà	tǐ.ìngúl.i.îwɔ́mà They are not felling the tree.
21.	hiîndo.îsiàl.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒmà	hiîndo.îsiàtǐ.ìpɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒmà The men are not building a house.
22.	ndó.îl.ɔ́`mbɛɛ̌.îyéyamà	ndó.î.ìmbɛɛ̌.îyéyamà The child is not buying rice.
23.	nyâpo.îsiàl.ɔ́`ketě.îvúkamà´	nyâpo.îsiàtǐ.ìketě.îvúkamà The women are not grinding the guinea corn.

24. nyâpo.îsiàl.ɔ́\` fúkamà — nyâpo.îsiàtǐ.ì\` fúkamà
The women are not grinding it.

25. tǐâ.á\` fâl.imà — tǐ.ì\` fâl.imà
They are not sowing it.

(Tests 56 and 57)

The Form ngɔ̀.

The present time sentences in Mende have a past time form that corresponds closely to the locative type of present continuous form available, but it is not frequently used. It will be presented later. There is a construction that conveys the idea of completion. Crosby calls this construction the *passive voice* (Crosby, p. 41). There never seems to be, however, an agent mentioned in these passive sentences and this 'passive' does not bear any of the formal relationships seen in Indo-European language passive constructions (i.e. agent expressed, auxillary verb, past participle). Of course Mende is made of different stuff anyway. A *passive translation* is quite useful in some instances, however.

A good example of a *ngɔ̀* sentence is *ngǐhaǎngɔ̀* 'He is dead.' This sentence can hardly be considered a passive since it is derived (in this analysis) from the sentence type *tâ.á\`haǎma* 'He is dying.', a sentence containing an intransitive verb. A *ngɔ̀* sentence derived from a sentence containing a transitive verb is *ngǐwaǎngɔ̀* 'He is killed.' Notice that the possessive pronoun is used and connected to the verb as if the verb were a *N2* noun, in the case of both transitive and intransitive verbs. A literal translation would be 'His dying *is*.' and 'His killing *is*.' Nouns too are connected as if the verbs were *N2* nouns: *nikɛ̌.îhaǎngɔ̀* 'The cow's dying (is).'; *nikɛ̌.îwaǎngɔ̀* 'The cow's own killing (is).' Most often the element that precedes the verb would be an appropriate object for the verb if the verb were transitive. The same element frequently represents a subject if the verb is intransitive. Potentially ambiguous sentences occur when the verb is both transitive and intransitive.

Unless there are semantic restrictions against it, some intransitive verbs have an iterative or continuing action aspect to their meaning. Thus *ngǐbàfángɔ̀* 'His illegitimacy (is).'; 'He is illegitimate.' semantically cannot be iterative or continuing since illegitimacy can only happen to a person once. In *ngǐyafǎngɔ̀* 'Her gossiping is.'; 'She is a gossip.' the action of the verb is thus indicated to be continuous (and most likely iterating). In addition, any intransitive verb with the meaning 'to become ____' (e.g. *nyandɛ̌* 'to become beautiful'), takes on the aspect of completion in an *ngɔ̀* sentence. The present form: *tâ.á\`nyandɛ̌ma* 'She is becoming beautiful' and the *ngɔ̀* form: *ngǐnyandɛ̌ngɔ̀* 'Her beauty (is).'; 'She has become beautiful.'; 'She is beautiful.' The verbs are, in fact, very much like nouns. The subject can be the non-human object, \`_, in which case the intransitive verbs *do not* have consonant mutation.

Drill XII. Form ngɔ̀ sentences from the following.

1.	ngǐ báji	ngǐbájingɔ̀ He is yellow. (He is a Chinaman.)
2.	ngǐ kɔ̂l.i	ngǐgɔ̂l.ingɔ̀ She is picked. (She is selected, engaged.)
3.	ngǐ kpatɛ̂	ngǐgbatɛ̂ngɔ̀ He is wealthy.

Drill XIII. Form ngɔ̀ sentences from the following.

1.	kulɛ̌.í báji	kulɛ̌.îbájingɔ̀ The cloth is yellow.
2.	mbɛɛ̌.í fâl.i	mbɛɛ̌.îvâl.ingɔ̀ The rice is sowed.
3.	kulɛ̌.í hɔ́l.ɔ	kulɛ̌.îhɔ́l.ɔngɔ̀ The cloth is sewn.
4.	ngúl.i.í pɔ́	ngúl.i.îwɔ́ngɔ̀ The tree is felled.
5.	pɛ́l.ɛ.í toǒ	pɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒngɔ̀ The house is built.
6.	sâl.o.í kɔ̂l.i	sâl.o.îgɔ̂l.ingɔ̀ The orange is picked.
7.	gbɛhɛ́.í kpatɛ̂	gbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂ngɔ̀ The stool is repaired.
8.	tɛ́.í paǎ	tɛ́.îwaǎngɔ̀ The chicken is killed.
9.	kulɛ̌.í ngéya	kulɛ̌.îyéyangɔ̀ The cloth is bought.

10. hákpɛ.í
mɛ̌
hákpɛ.îmɛ̌ngɔ̀
The sauce is eaten.

11. nyâpo.í
fɔnî
nyâpo.îvɔnîngɔ̀
The woman is pinched.

12. mbɛɛ̌.í
fúka
mbɛɛ̌.îvúkangɔ̀
The rice is ground.

13. mɔtó.í
kpatɛ̂
mɔtó.îgbatɛ̂ngɔ̀
The car is fixed.

14. ngúl.i.í
ngál.i
ngúl.i.îyál.ingɔ̀
The stick is broken.

15. nyɛ́.í
ngíl.i
nyɛ́.îyíl.ingɔ̀
The fish is cooked.

Drill XIV. Form ngɔ̀ sentences with the following.

1. mbɛɛ̌.í
mbé
mbɛɛ̌.îbéngɔ̀
The rice is dry.

2. tangɛ̌.í
kpakpǎ
tangɛ̌.îgbakpǎngɔ̀
The cassava is woody.

3. ngúl.i.í
kpɔvɔ̂
ngúl.i.îgbɔvɔ̂ngɔ̀
The tree is healthy.

4. kulɛ̌.í
kol.ě
kulɛ̌.îgol.ěngɔ̀
The cloth is white.

5. fakâ.i.í
hitǐ
fakâ.i.îhitǐngɔ̀
The pawpaw is ripe.

6. mahɛ̌.í
ngóva
mahɛ̌.îwóvangɔ̀
The chief is old.

7.	mbɛɛ̌.í ngejě	mbɛɛ̌.îyejěngɔ̀ The rice is stale.
8.	nyâpo.í nyámu	nyâpo.înyámungɔ̀ The woman is ugly.
9.	fɛɛ̌.í tɛl.í	fɛɛ̌.îlɛl.ǐngɔ̀ The pot is black.

<u>Drill XV.</u> Form <u>ngɔ̀</u> sentences from the following present time sentences. Notice the translation.

1.	mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`wóvama	mahɛ̌.îwóvangɔ̀ The chief is old.
2.	kulɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`gol.ěma	kulɛ̌.îgol.ěngɔ̀ The cloth is clean.
3.	tâ.á`mbɛɛ̌.îvâl.imà	mbɛɛ̌.îvâl.ingɔ̀ The rice is sowed.
4.	tǐâ.á`gbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂mà	gbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂ngɔ̀ The stool is fixed.
5.	hiîndo.îl.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒmà	pɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒngɔ̀ The house is built.
6.	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`pundî.îwaǎmà	pundî.îwaǎngɔ̀ The mosquito is killed.

Non-human objects can be deleted before transitive verbs and replaced with <u>`</u>. The element that occurs before verbs having the suffix <u>ngɔ̀</u> can be deleted also. It makes no difference whether the verb is transitive or intransitive. As with transitive verbs, there is no consonant mutation. You may have noticed that the intransitive verbs used so far have been given to you with the non-mutated consonant form and that it was necessary to 'mutate' the consonants of the intransitive verbs. In <u>ngɔ̀</u> sentences where the element preceding the verb is deleted, again there is no consonant mutation. It is a further parallel that the pronoun which may be deleted before a transitive verb is the possessive pronoun and that the pronoun which may be deleted before a verb with the <u>ngɔ̀</u> suffix is also a possessive pronoun. Note also that nouns take the same form before transitive verbs and verbs with the <u>ngɔ̀</u> suffix that the nouns take before the <u>N2</u> nouns that they 'possess'.

...nikɛ̌.îwaǎmà	...is killing the cow
...nikɛ̌.îwuǔ.í	...the cow's own head
nikɛ̌.îwaǎngɔ̀	The cow is killed.

If the 'element that precedes the verb' is to be given a grammatical name, <u>possessive</u> is quite appropriate.

<u>Drill XVI.</u> Form <u>ngɔ̀</u> sentences with deleted possessives from the following. The mark ` stands for the non-human possessor 'its'.

1.	kulɛ̌.îbájingɔ̀	`bájingɔ̀	It is yellow.
2.	ngúl.i.îwóvangɔ̀	`ngóvangɔ̀	It is old.
3.	gbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂ngɔ̀	`kpatɛ̂ngɔ̀	It is fixed.
4.	tɛ́.îwaǎngɔ̀	`paǎngɔ̀	It is killed.
5.	hákpɛ.îmɛ̌ngɔ̀	`mɛ̌ngɔ̀	It is eaten.
6.	mbɛɛ̌.îyejɛ̌ngɔ̀	`ngejɛ̌ngɔ̀	It is stale.
7.	fɛɛ̌.îlɛl.ǐngɔ̀	`tɛl.ǐngɔ̀	It is black.
8.	nyɛ́.îyíl.ingɔ̀	`ngíl.ingɔ̀	It is cooked.
9.	fakâl.i.îgɔ̂l.ingɔ̀	`kɔ̂l.ingɔ̀	It is picked.
10.	ketě.îvúkangɔ̀	`fúkangɔ̀	It is ground.
11.	sɛ́l.ɛ.îmɛ̌ngɔ̀	`mɛ̌ngɔ̀	It is eaten.
12.	mbɛɛ̌.îvâl.ingɔ̀	`fâl.ingɔ̀	It is sowed.
13.	kulɛ̌.îhɔ́l.ɔngɔ̀	`hɔ́l.ɔngɔ̀	It is sewn.
14.	ngúl.i.îwɔ́ngɔ̀	`pɔ́ngɔ̀	It is felled.
15.	bûku.îyéyangɔ̀	`ngéyangɔ̀	It is bought.
16.	bɔndɛ́.îyílingɔ̀	`ngíl.ingɔ̀	It is cooked.
17.	bafɛ.îloǒngɔ̀	`toǒngɔ̀	It is built.
18.	pɛ́l.ɛ.înyámungɔ̀	`nyámungɔ̀	It is bad.
19.	tangɛ̌.îgbakpǎngɔ̀	`kpakpǎngɔ̀	It is woody.
20.	mbɛɛ̌.îgbɔvɔ̂ngɔ̀	`kpɔvɔ̂ngɔ̀	It is flourishing.

21.	ngúl.i.îyálingɔ̀	\`ngálingɔ̀	It is broken.
22.	sɛ́lɛ.îhitǐngɔ̀	\`hitǐngɔ̀	It is ripe.
23.	bôngɛ.îbéngɔ̀	\`mbéngɔ̀	It is dry.
24.	bomuko.îwaǎngɔ̀	\`paǎngɔ̀	It is dead.
25.	bûku.îwóvangɔ̀	\`ngóvangɔ̀	It is old.

Idiomatic Sentences with ngɔ̀.

There are a number of idioms which come in the form of ngɔ̀ sentences.

1.	ngǐgol.ěngɔ̀	He is pale. (He is white.)
2.	ngǐvakâléw.engɔ̀	He is lazy. (His strength is cut.)
3.	ngǐgaângɔ̀	He is educated.
4.	ngǐgɛ́w.ungɔ̀	He is always warming himself. He is chilly.
5.	\`kúngɔ̀	It stinks. (It is smelled.)

The Negative of ngɔ̀.

There is a negative expression for ngɔ̀ sentences. It involves the use of a third person singular negative, .ì, and the particle lé which means, like ngɔ̀, 'is' or 'exists'. A literal translation of mahɛ̌.îwóvangɔ̀.ìlé would be 'It's the chief's agedness; it isn't.' Go back now to Drill XII (ngǐbájingɔ̀) and make the ngɔ̀ sentences negative with .ìlé.

A second type of negative is the negative of the past tense. This will be introduced later.

Ngɔ̀ Sentences and 'Adjectives'.

Those ngɔ̀ sentences which have noun 'possessors' (or subjects, e.g. mahɛ̌.í in mahɛ̌.îwóvangɔ̀) can themselves be considered nouns or nominals and are subject to the same rules that other nouns, noun compounds and possessive complexes are subject to. The ngɔ̀ sentence can be made definite by adding .í to the ngɔ̀ sentence form and deleting it from the possessor. In this case the ngɔ̀ sentence is to be considered a nominal; it is no longer a sentence. (A particle lé 'is', when suffixed to ngɔ̀, often becomes .é or .í. This .í gives the ngɔ̀ sentence emphasis.)

Mahǎwóvangɔ̀.í... is 'the old chief', mahǎwóvangɔ̀.î`lɔ́béi 'The old chief is here.' Other possibilities include:

jagbagútungɔ̀...	a short basin
jagbagútungɔ̀.í...	the short basin
yeéjàgbagútungɔ̀...	a type of short basin
yeéjàgbɛ.îgútungɔ̀	That basin is short.
jagbɛ.îyeékútungɔ̀...	the basin which is short
jagbɛ.îyeékútungɔ̀.í...	the basin which is short
jagbɛ.îyeékútu.í...	the basin which is short

The most important of these are the first two. In both cases the ngɔ̀ can be omitted giving jagba-gutu 'a short basin' and jagba-guti.í 'the short basin'. In the case where the noun possessor is connected to the verb by a dash, the verb is translated as, and is sometimes called an adjective.

There are a few qualifications in this matter. Nearly all verbs can take the ngɔ̀ form and appear in ngɔ̀ sentences. In the lexicon, these verbs are coded ng. Fewer verbs can undergo the deletion of ngɔ̀ and appear in the resulting hyphenated form. Those that can are coded at in the lexicon.

Drill XVII. In the following drill, change ngɔ̀ sentences into hyphenated compounds. Verbs that are not coded at cannot become members of a nominal compound connected by a hyphen. The ngɔ̀ sentences which have pronouns as possessors cannot undergo this change. If the possessor in the ngɔ̀ sentence is in the definite form, the definite .í should be moved to the end of the hyphenated compound. Consult the lexicon.

1.	mbɛɛ̌.îvúkangɔ̀	mbaǎ-vukɛ.í the ground rice
2.	mbɛɛ̌.îbéngɔ̀	mbaǎ-be.í the dry rice
3.	tangɛ̌.îgbakpǎngɔ̀	tangǎ-gbakpɛ.í the woody cassava
4.	ngúl.i.îgbɔvɔ̂ngɔ̀	ngúl.u-gbɔvɔ.í the healthy tree
5.	kulɛ̌.îgol.ěngɔ̀	kulǎ-gol.e.í the white cloth
6.	fakâl.i.îhitǐngɔ̀	fakâl.i-hiti.í the mature pawpaw
7.	mahɛ̌.îwóvangɔ̀	mahǎ-wovɛ.í the old chief

8.	mbɛɛ̌.îyejěngɔ̀	mbaǎ-yeje.í	the stale rice
9.	ndó.înyámungɔ̀	ndó-nyamu.í	the ugly child
10.	fɛɛ̌.îlɛl.ǐngɔ̀	fɛɛ̌-lɛl.i.í	the black pot
11.	núm.u.îgútungɔ̀	núm.u-guti.í	the short person
12.	kɔ̂w.i.îminǐngɔ̀	kɔ̂w.u-mini.í	the heavy box
13.	nyâpo.îwóvangɔ̀	nyâpo-wovɛ.í	the old woman
14.	ndó.înyámungɔ̀	ndó-nyamu.í	the bad child
15.	ketě.îvúkangɔ̀	ketě-vukɛ.í	the ground guinea corn

Drill XVIII. Change these ngɔ̀ sentences to hyphenated compounds.

1.	ngúl.i.îlogbǒngɔ̀	ngúl.u-logbo.í	the withered tree
2.	njɛɛ̌.îjúsungɔ̀	njaǎ-jusu.í	the deep river
3.	ndɔɔ̌.îŋɔ̂n.angɔ̀	ndɔɔ̌-ŋɔn.ɛ.í	the bitter wine
4.	kpekɛ̂.îninǎngɔ̀	kpekâ-ninɛ.í	the new razor
5.	njé-huawúndungɔ̀	njé-hua-wundi.í	fresh goat meat
6.	ndɔɔ̌.înɛɛ̌ngɔ̀	ndɔɔ̌-nɛɛ.í	the sweet wine
7.	nyɛ́.îluwǎngɔ̀	nyɛ́-luwɛ.í	the properly cooked fish
8.	tangɛ̌.îlúlangɔ̀	tangǎ-lulɛ.í	the rotten cassava

9.	ndɔɔ̌.îlokěngɔ̀	ndɔɔ̌-loke.í	the clear wine
10.	fakâl.i.îhitǐngɔ̀	fakâl.i-hiti.í	the mature pawpaw
11.	ŋɔnǐ.îgbotǒngɔ̀	ŋɔnǐ-gboto.í	the plentiful oysters
12.	nyɔɔ̌.îgbɛ́nyɛngɔ̀	nyɔɔ̌-gbɛnyɛ.í	the grit-corn
13.	ngúl.i.îgbɛ́ndɛngɔ̀	ngúl.u-gbɛndɛ.í	the stunted tree
14.	mbɛɛ̌.îgbandǐngɔ̀	mbaǎ-gbandi.í	the warmed rice
15.	tangɛ̌.îgbál.angɔ̀	tangǎ-gbal.ɛ.í	the unprocessed cassava
16.	fɛɛ̌.îvéndangɔ̀	fɛɛ̌-vendɛ.í	the full pot
17.	fále.îdɔ́gbɛngɔ̀	fále-dɔgbɛ.í	the tender sprout

Drill XIX. Combine these nouns and 'verbs' to form nominal compounds in the definite form.

1.	jagba kútu	jagba-guti.í	the short basin
2.	nyɔɔ̌ fúka	nyɔɔ̌-vukɛ.í	the ground corn
3.	fakâl.i hitǐ	fakâl.i-hiti.í	the ripe pawpaw
4.	ngál.a kol.ě	ngál.a-gol.e.í	the white mat
5.	bɛlɛ kol.ě	bɛlɛ-gol.e.í	the white trousers
6.	kulǎ mbé	kulǎ-be.í	the dry cloth
7.	ndáw.a mbé	ndáw.a-be.í	the dry leaf

8.	kpa.ǎ mbé	kpa.ǎ-be.í	the dry farm (ready for harvest)
9.	kpandɛ̂ minǐ	kpandɛ̂-mini.í	the heavy gun
10.	kaŋá minǐ	kaŋá-mini.í	the heavy chest
11.	fɛɛ̌ ndɛ́l.i	fɛɛ̌-lɛl.i.í	the wet pot
12.	fɛɛ̌ tɛl.ǐ	fɛɛ̌-lɛl.i.í	the black pot
13.	mbaǎ mbé	mbaǎ-be.í	the dry rice
14.	ngúl.u pɔ́na	ngúl.u-wɔnɛ.í	the straight stick
15.	pɛ́l.ɛ kpɔl.ǔ	pɛ́l.ɛ-gbɔl.i.í	the red house

Drill XX. Combine these definite nouns and 'verbs' to form nominal compounds in the definite form.

1.	mɔtó.í minǐ	mɔtó-mini.í	the heavy car
2.	ndɛndɛ̌.í minǐ	ndɛndɛ̌-mini.í	the heavy boat
3.	ndɛndɛ̌.í ngóva	ndɛndɛ̌-wovɛ.í	the old boat
4.	gbɛhɛ́.í ngóva	gbɛhɛ́-wovɛ.í	the old bench
5.	han.ǐ.í ngóva	han.ǐ-wovɛ.í	the old thing
6.	hiîndo.í ngóva	hiîndo-wovɛ.í	the old man
7.	hinî.í nyámu	hinî-nyamu.í	the bad husband
8.	bɛɛ́si.í nyámu	bɛɛ́si-nyamu.í	the bad pig

9.	ngafɛ̂.í nyámu	ngafâ-nyamu.í	the bad spirit
10.	nyahɛ̂.í nyandě	nyahâ-nyande.í	the beautiful wife
11.	njombǒ.i nyandě	njombǒ-nyande.í	the beautiful feather
12.	kulɛ̌.í nyandě	kulǎ-nyande.í	the beautiful cloth
13.	kpayɛ̌.í nyandě	kpayǎ-nyande.í	the beautiful head-tie
14.	kulɛ̌.í tɛl.ǐ	kulǎ-lɛl.i.í	the black cloth
15.	pɛ́l.ɛ.í tɛl.ǐ	pɛ́l.ɛ-lɛl.i.í	the black house
16.	mɔtó.í tɛl.ǐ	mɔtó-lɛl.i.í	the black car
17.	ngeyɛ̌.í tɛl.ǐ	ngeyǎ-lɛl.i.í	the black rope
18.	ndá.a.á dɔ́gbɛ	ndá.a-dɔgbɛ.í	the tender leaf
19.	kaŋá.á fénda	kaŋá-vendɛ.í	the full chest
20.	fále.í kpɛ́ndɛ	fále-gbɛndɛ.í	the stunted sprout
21.	ketě.í kpɛ́nyɛ	ketě-gbɛnyɛ.í	the grit guinea corn
22.	pal.ǐ.í súsu	pal.ǐ-jusu.í	the deep pool
23.	ŋamɛ̌.í ngúndu	ŋamǎ-wundi.í	the fresh blood
24.	ndégbe.í tɛl.ǐ	ndégbe-lɛl.i.í	the black catfish
25.	ndáw.ɛ.í ndúla	ndáw.a-lulɛ.í	the rotten leaf

26.	ndomɛ̌.í kol.ě	ndomǎ-gol.e.í	the white shirt
27.	ndikpɛ̌.í kútu	ndikpǎ-guti.í	the short arrow
28.	kɔtǐ.í minǐ	kɔtǔ-mini.í	the heavy stone
29.	ndopô.í nyámu	ndopô-nyamu.í	the bad servant
30.	nyahɛ̂.í ninǎ	nyahâ-ninɛ.í	the new wife
31.	sɛ́lɛ.í ndúla	sɛ́lɛ-lulɛ.í	the rotten banana

Drill XXI. Combine the following sentences and 'verbs' so that the verb becomes part of the subject.

1.	mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`lǐma ngóva	mahǎ-wovɛ.îl.ɔ́`lǐma The old chief is going.
2.	kal.ǐ.íjîl.ɔ́`haǎma nyámu	kal.ǐ-nyamu.íjîl.ɔ́`haǎma The bad snake is dying.
3.	nyahɛ̂.îl.ɔ́`lǐma ninǎ	nyahâ-ninɛ.îl.ɔ́`lǐma The new wife is going.
4.	kulɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`gol.ěma ninǎ	kulǎ-ninɛ.îl.ɔ́`gol.ěma The new cloth is becoming clean.
5.	fɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`lɛl.ǐma ngóva	fɛɛ̌-wovɛ.îl.ɔ́`lɛl.ǐma The old pot is becoming black.

Drill XXII. Combine these sentences. Take the information of the second sentence and insert it into the first.

1.	núm.u.îl.ɔ́`wǎma núm.u.îwóvangɔ̀	núm.u-wovɛ.îl.ɔ́`wǎma The old person is coming.
2.	kal.ǐ.îl.ɔ́`haǎma kal.ǐ.înyámungɔ̀	kal.ǐ-nyamu.îl.ɔ́`haǎma The bad snake is dying.

3. ndomɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`nyámuma
ndomɛ̌.îwóvangɔ̀
ndomǎ-wovɛ.îl.ɔ́`nyámuma
The old shirt is getting bad.

4. fɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`minǐma
fɛɛ̌.îlɛlǐngɔ̀
fɛɛ̌-lɛli.îl.ɔ́`minǐma
The black pot is getting heavy.

5. kamɔ́.îl.ɔ́`bûku.îgbêmà
kamɔ́.îninǎngɔ̀
kamɔ́-ninɛ.îl.ɔ́`bûku.îgbêmà
The new teacher is looking at the book.

6. hiîndo.îl.ɔ́`nyɛ́.îgbɛ́mà
hiîndo.înyámungɔ̀
hiîndo-nyamu.îl.ɔ́`nyɛ́.îgbɛ́mà
The bad man is fishing.

Drill XXIII. Combine the following sentences.

1. nyákênyal.ɔ́`sɛ́lɛ.îmɛ̌mà
sɛ́lɛ.înɛɛ̌ngɔ̀
nyákênyal.ɔ́`sɛ́lɛ-nɛɛ.îmɛ̌mà
My uncle is eating a sweet banana.

2. ndó.îl.ɔ́`fakâ.i.îgɔ̂limà
fakâ.i.îlúlangɔ̀
ndó.îl.ɔ́`fakâ.i-lulɛ.îgɔ̂limà
The child is picking a rotten pawpaw.

3. nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`ketě.îyíl.imà
ketě.îvúkangɔ̀
nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`ketě-vukɛ.îyíl.imà
The woman is cooking the ground guinea corn.

4. nyán`jél.ɔ́`tɛ́.îyíl.imà
tɛ́.îdɔ́gbɛngɔ̀
nyán`jél.ɔ́`tɛ́-dɔgbɛ.îyíl.imà
My mother is cooking the young chicken.

5. fáji.îl.ɔ́béi
fáji.îlɛl.ǐngɔ̀
fáji-lɛl.i.îl.ɔ́béi
The black bucket is here.

6. tâ.á`sâlo.îgɔ̂l.imà
sâlo.îhitǐngɔ̀
tâ.á`sâlo-hiti.îgɔ̂l.imà
He is picking the ripe orange.

7. tâ.á`ngúl.i.îwɔ́mà
ngúl.i.îbéngɔ̀
tâ.á`ngúl.u-be.îwɔ́mà
He is felling the dry tree.

8. ndó.îl.ɔ́`mbɛɛ̌.îyéyamà
mbɛɛ̌.îbéngɔ̀
ndó.îl.ɔ́`mbaǎ-be.îyéyamà
The child is buying dry rice.

9. nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`ketě.îyíl.imà
nyâpo.îwóvangɔ̀
nyâpo-wovɛ.îl.ɔ́`ketě.îyíl.imà
The old woman is cooking guinea corn.

10. ndó.îl.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu
pɛ́l.ɛ.îninǎngɔ̀
ndó.îl.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ-ninɛ.îbu
The child is in the new house.

Combining Hyphenated Compounds and Complexes.

It is possible to expand nominals by possessing them, further adding nouns to noun compounds or combining with ngɔ̀ sentences.

nyâ-lomɛ.í... ndomɛ̌.îwóvangɔ̀	my shirt... The shirt is old.	nyâ-loma-wovɛ.í (‾ _ _ _ _ -) My old shirt...
fandě-lomɛ.í... ndomɛ̌.înyanděngɔ̀	cotton shirt... The shirt is nice.	fandě-loma-nyande.í (_ _ ‾ _ _ _ -) The nice cotton shirt.
nyâ-lomɛ.í fandě-lomɛ.í ndomɛ̌.înyanděngɔ̀		nyâ-fande-loma-nyande.í (‾ _ _ _ _ _ _ -) My nice cotton shirt.
pɛ́l.ɛ.îwóvangɔ̀ njasǎ-wɛlɛ.í... nyâ-wɛl.ɛ.í...		nyâ-yasa-wɛl.ɛ-wovɛ.í (‾ _ _ _ _ _ _ -) My old thatch house...

The tonal results of the multiple hyphenating are the same as single hyphenated constructions.

1) All tonal mapping symbols on the forms preceded by a hyphen are deleted. (The definite form í is not considered to be preceded by a hyphen; its tone is not deleted.)
2) Tonal sharing (or extension) occurs between the last vowel before the first (or only) hyphen and the first vowel after the first (or only) hyphen.
3) Definite forms not indicating possession are shifted to the end.
4) Consonant mutation after each hyphen.

The expansion of nominal phrases by the addition of forms is semantically limited.

Drill XXIV. 'Possess' the following compounds as indicated.

1.	ngǐ kpitǐ-yal.ɛ.í	ngǐ-gbiti-yal.ɛ.í his grass mat
2.	nyâ nɔ́nɔ-bolɛ.í	nyâ-nɔnɔ-bolɛ.í my milk cup
3.	tǐ mɛndé-mitɛ.í	tǐ-mɛnde-mitɛ.í their Mende spoon
4.	ngǐ fandě-gulɛ.í	ngǐ-vande-gulɛ.í his cotton cloth
5.	tǐ huǎ-wel.e.í	tǐ-hua-wel.e.í their game trail
6.	nyâ dɔ̂wu-yaw.i.í	nyâ-dɔw.u-yaw.i.í my duck egg
7.	mǔ ŋɔnǐ-bambi.í	mǔ-ŋɔni-bambi.í our bird snare
8.	ngǐ ngúl.u-gbɛgbɛ.í	ngǐ-wul.u-gbɛgbɛ.í her wooden comb
9.	nyâ fandě-bɛlɛ.í	nyâ-vande-bɛlɛ.í my cotton trousers

Drill XXV. 'Possess' these possessive constructions.

1.	nyâ nyahɛ̂.îwómbi.í	nyâ-nyahɛ.îwómbi.í my wife's knee
2.	bî nikɛ̌.înɛ́.ɛ́	bî-nikɛ.înɛ́.ɛ́ your cow's (own) tongue
3.	ngǐ dɔ̂w.i.îwuǔ.í	ngǐ-dɔw.i.îwuǔ.í his duck's (own) head

4.	nyâ njé.î-lo.í	nyâ-ye.î-lo.í my goat's offspring
5.	ngǐ mbakɛ̌.îwó.í	ngǐ-bakɛ.îwó.í his accordian's voice
6.	mǔ nikɛ̌.îgɔlɛ̂.í	mǔ-nikɛ.îgɔlɛ̂.í our cow's (own) skin

Note also:

7.	mǔ nikǎ-gɔlɛ.í	mǔ-nika-gɔlɛ.í our cow skin (leather)

Drill XXVI. 'Possess' the following as indicated.

1.	nyâ mbaǎ-vukɛ.í	nyâ-baa-vukɛ.í my ground rice
2.	ngǐ kulǎ-gol.e.í	ngǐ-gula-gol.e.í her white cloth
3.	nyâpo.í fɛɛ̌-lɛl.i.í	nyâpo.î-vɛɛ-lɛl.i.í the woman's black pot
4.	hótɛ.í kɔ̂w.u-mini.í	hótɛ.î-gɔw.u-mini.í the guest's heavy case
5.	hiîndo.í kpekâ-ninɛ.í	hiîndo.î-gbeka-ninɛ.í the man's new razor

Drill XXVII. Join the following nouns and noun compounds.

1.	fandě ndomǎ-nyande.í	fandě-loma-nyande.í the nice cotton shirt
2.	tɔ́kpɔ ngú.lɔ-gbengi.í	tɔ́kpɔ-wu.lɔ-gbengi.í the palm oil sediment

3.	kɔfí bôla-ninɛ.í	kɔfí-bola-ninɛ.í the new coffee cup
4.	sɛ́lɛ dágba-lulɛ.í	sɛ́lɛ-dagba-lulɛ.í the rotten banana tree core
5.	fandě bɛlɛ-ninɛ.í	fandě-bɛlɛ-ninɛ.í the new cotton trousers
6.	njaǎ fɛɛ̌-lɛli.í	njaǎ-vɛɛ-lɛli.í the black water pot
7.	ngúl.u kpɛgbɛ-wovɛ.í	ngúl.u-gbɛgbɛ-wovɛ.í the old wooden comb
8.	ngúl.u kaŋá-mini.í	ngúl.u-gaŋa-mini.í the heavy wooden box
9.	njé huǎ-wundi.í	njé-hua-wundi.í the fresh goat meat
10.	nikǎ-gɔlɛ.í ninǎ	nikǎ-gɔlɔ-ninɛ.í the new cow skin
11.	fandě-gulɛ.í gol.ě	fandě-gula-gol.e.í the white cotton cloth
12.	mbal.ǎ-huɛ.í ndúla	mbal.ǎ-hua-lulɛ.í the rotten mutton
13.	huǎ-wel.e.í kútu	huǎ-wel.e-guti.í the short game trail
14.	hál.e-wɛl.ɛ.í wóva	hál.e-wɛl.ɛ-wovɛ.í the old hospital

Drill XXVIII. 'Possess' the following as indicated.

1.	bî fandě-loma-nyande.í	bî-vande-loma-nyande.í your nice cotton shirt
2.	tǐ kɔfí-bola-ninɛ.í	tǐ-gɔfi-bola-ninɛ.í their new coffee cup
3.	mǔ hótɛ.î-gɔw.u-mini.í	mǔ-hotɛ.î-gɔw.u-mini.í our guest's heavy chest
4.	nyâ nikǎ-gɔlɔ-ninɛ.í	nyâ-nika-gɔlɔ-ninɛ.í my new leather

Noun phrases of the type that you have just produced can be 'subjects' or 'objects'. They can take *jí*, *ná* and *sià* and locative postpositions.

Large and Small.

The intransitive verbs *kû.lo* 'become small' and *ngɔl.ɔ̌* 'become large' work slightly differently from other verbs. Each can occur in an *ngɔ̀* sentence. E.g. *ngǐgû.longɔ̀* 'he is small', *pél.ɛ.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀* 'the house is large', but when these words are connected to a noun or to a compound with a hyphen their forms change. *Ngɔl.ɔ̌* or *wɔl.ɔ̌* becomes *waa* (taking *á* for the definite form) and *kû.lɔ* or *gû.lɔ* becomes *wol.o* (or *wul.o*, definite form *wol.o.í* or *wo.o.í*). Neither *waa* nor *wol.o* can occur in *ngɔ̀* sentences. It is very interesting that everything that one can call an adjective can be traced back in some way to a verb.

Notice where the period is in the word *kû.lo*. Before the *u* is deleted (and it usually is), the mark *^* is moved to the *o*, *k.lô*,(\). When the *l* in *ngɔl.ɔ̌* is deleted and consonant mutation changes the *ng* to *w*, and the tone becomes (_ _) or (‾ _) after a hyphen, *waa* 'big' may be mistaken for *wo.o* 'small' in the same position if the listener is not carefully tuned to the difference between *ɔ*, *o* and *a*.

Three of the four forms presented here can be reduced by the deletion of an *l*. This is the way the forms are most commonly used.

In the following drills, the words will be written without the deletion of the *l*'s but it is likely that your teacher will delete these *l*'s in all drills.

Drill XXIX. Change these ngɔ̀ sentences to noun compounds.

1.	hél.e.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	hél.e-waa.á the big elephant
2.	pundî.îgû.longɔ̀	pundî-wol.o.í the small mosquito
3.	kɔl.ɛ̌.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	kɔl.ɔ̌-waa.á the large book
4.	mɛmɛ.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	mɛmɛ-waa.á the big mirror
5.	ndovǒ.îgû.longɔ̀	ndovǒ-wol.o.í the small frog
6.	ndó.îgû.longɔ̀	ndó-wol.o.í the small child
7.	mbalǔ.îgû.longɔ̀	mbalǔ-wol.o.í the small cane
8.	gbokito.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	gbokito-waa.á the big sandals
9.	kalǒ.îgû.longɔ̀	kalǒ-wol.o.í the small basin
10.	nɔtɔ.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	nɔtɔ-waa.á the big mussel
11.	fɛɛ̌.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	fɛɛ̌-waa.á the big pot
12.	hapě.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	hapě-waa.á the big root
13.	kpolǐ.îgû.longɔ̀	kpolǐ-wol.o.í the little worm
14.	ngukpě.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	ngukpě-waa.á the big stump
15.	gboji.îgû.longɔ̀	gboji-wol.o.í the small plum
16.	kpandɛ̂.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	kpandɛ̂-waa.á the big gun

17.	mbimbî.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	mbimbî-waa.á the large dirt pile
18.	jiw.î.îgû.longɔ̀	jiw.î-wol.o.í the small key
19.	ngolě.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	ngolǒ-waa.á the large chimpanzee
20.	kol.ê.îgû.longɔ̀	kol.ô-wol.o.í the small driver ant
21.	bɔlɛ.îsiàtǐwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	bɔlɔ-waa.îsià the big hats
22.	tɔw.ɛ.îgû.longɔ̀	tɔw.ɔ-wol.o.í the small bean
23.	búl.i.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	búl.u-waa.á the big trumpet
24.	ngáw.i.îgû.longɔ̀	ngáw.u-wol.o.í the small egg
25.	fáhɛ.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	fáha-waa.á the big crowd
26.	ngulî.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	ngulû-waa.á the big cobra
27.	kaŋá.âwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	kaŋá-waa.á the big box
28.	kol.ě.îgû.longɔ̀	kol.ǒ-wol.o.í the small ember
29.	ngetê.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	ngetê-waa.á the big pestle
30.	lumbê.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	lumbê-waa.á the big orange

The forms waa and wol.o can be the last member of most compounds, (most of the limitations are semantic). The standard rules for interpreting the hyphenated compounds apply.

Drill XXX. Add waa or wol.o (from ngɔl.ɔ̌ or kû.lo) to each of the following.

1.	tangǎ-gbakpɛ.í tangěîwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	tangǎ-gbakpa-waa.á the big woody cassava

2.	kulǎ-gol.e.í kulɛ̌.îgû.longɔ̀	kulǎ-gol.e-wol.o.í the small white dress
3.	mahǎ-wovɛ.í mahɛ̌.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	mahǎ-wova-waa.á the big old chief
4.	ndó-nyamu.í ndó.îgû.longɔ̀	ndó-nyamu-wol.o.í the ugly little child
5.	fɛɛ̌-lɛl.i.í fɛɛ̌.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	fɛɛ̌-lɛl.i-waa.á the big black pot
6.	núm.u-guti.í núm.u.îgû.longɔ̀	númu-gutu-wol.o.í the short little person
7.	kɔ̂w.u-mini.í kɔ̂w.i.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	kɔ̂w.u-mini-waa.á the big heavy box
8.	nyâpo-wovɛ.í nyâpo.îgû.longɔ̀	nyâpo-wova-wol.o.í the little old lady
9.	fakâl.i-hitǐ.í fakâl.i.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	fakâl.i-hiti-waa.á the big mature pawpaw
10.	fále-dɔgbɛ.í fálegû.longɔ̀	fále-dɔgbɛ-wol.o.í the tender little sprout
11.	jagba-guti.í jagbɛ.îgû.longɔ̀	jagba-gutu-wol.o.í the short little basin
12.	ngál.a-gol.e.í ngál.ɛ.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	ngál.a-gol.e-waa.á the big white mat
13.	ndáw.a-be.í ndawɛ.îgû.longɔ̀	ndáw.a-be-wol.o.í the little dry leaf
14.	kpandɛ̂-mini.í kpandɛ̂.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	kpandɛ̂-mini-waa.á the big heavy gun

15.	kaŋá-mini.í kaŋá.âwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	kaŋá-mini-waa.á the big heavy chest
16.	ngúl.u-wɔnɛ.í ngúl.i.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	ngúl.u-wɔna-waa.á the big straight stick
17.	pɛ́l.ɛ-gbɔl.i.í pɛ́l.ɛ.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	pɛ́l.ɛ-gbɔl.u-waa.á the big red house
18.	mɔtó-mini.í mɔtó.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	mɔtó-mini-waa.á the big heavy car
19.	ndɛndɛ̌-wovɛ.í ndɛndɛ̌.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	ndɛndɛ̌-wova-waa.á the big old boat
20.	mɔtó-lɛl.i.í mɔtó.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	mɔtó-lɛl.i-waa.á the big black car
21.	fále-gbɛndɛ.í fále.îgû.longɔ̀	fále-gbɛndɛ-wol.o.í the little stunted sprout
22.	ngǐ-gbiti-yal.ɛ.í ngál.ɛ.îgû.longɔ̀	ngǐ-gbiti-yal.a-wol.o.í his little grass mat
23.	nyâ-nɔnɔ-bolɛ.í bôlɛ.îgû.longɔ̀	nyâ-nɔnɔ-bola-wol.o.í my little milk cup
24.	ngǐ-wul.u-gbɛgbɛ.í kpɛgbɛ.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	ngǐ-wul.u-gbɛgbɛ-waa.á her big wooden comb
25.	nyâpo.î-vɛɛ-lɛl.i.í fɛɛ̌.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	nyâpo.î-vɛɛ-lɛl.i-waa.á the woman's big black pot
26.	hótɛ.î-gɔw.u-mini.í kɔ̂w.i.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	hótɛ.î-gɔw.u-mini-waa.á the guest's big heavy case
27.	fandě-loma-nyande.í ndomɛ̌.îgû.longɔ̀	fandě-loma-nyande-wol.o.í the nice little cotton shirt

28.	nikǎ-gɔlɔ-ninɛ.í gɔlɛ̂.îwɔl.ɔ̌ngɔ̀	nikǎ-gɔlɔ-nina-waa.á the big new cow skin

Kpékpe: 'Good'

The Mende word for 'good' is unique tonally and in its consonant mutation. Study the following and try to formulate the rules of combination before reading the rules below.

1.	\`kpékpengɔ̀	It's good.
2.	kúgbɛ.îgbékpengɔ̀	The hero is good.
3.	kúgbayékpel.ɔ́béi	A good hero is here.
4.	kúgbayékpe.îl.ɔ́béi	The good hero is here.
5.	kúgbayékpengɔ̀.îl.ɔ́béi	It's the good hero who is here.
6.	kúgbayékpengɔ̀.î.ɛ̀\`pé.e	The good hero will not do it.
7.	kúgbayékpe.î.ɛ̀\`pé.e	The good hero will not do it.

When kpékpe is used in a single (non-included) ngɔ̀ sentence (#1 and #2 but not #4 and #5) normal consonant mutation occurs; kp becomes gb, if there is to be consonant mutation. When the ngɔ̀ sentence is then included into another sentence type and ngɔ̀ is present (#5 and #6) or absent (#3, #4, and #7) the consonant mutation is kp (or gb) > y. Only the noun in the non-included ngɔ̀ sentences can take the definite form. Otherwise the definite form may be put on ngɔ̀ (#5 and #6) or on yékpe when ngɔ̀ is omitted (#4 and #7). Kpékpe always has the tones (▬ ▬) and it is never connected to anything by a hyphen.

Drill XXXI. Combine the following sentences to make new sentences containing noun compounds with kpékpe.

1.	tâ.á\`ngúl.i.îwɔ́mà \`kpékpengɔ̀	tâ.á\`ngúl.uyékpe.îwɔ́mà He is felling the good tree.
2.	ndomɛ̌.î\`gol.ěn.i\`l.ɔ́ ndomɛ.îgbékpengɔ̀	ndomǎyékpe.î\`gol.ěn.i\`l.ɔ́ The good shirt became white.
3.	kúgbɛ.ínâ.àndikpɛ̌.îbô\`l.ɔ́ ngǐgbékpengɔ̀	kúgbayékpe.ínâ.àndikpɛ̌.îbô\`l.ɔ́ That good warrior will shoot the arrow.
4.	tâ.á\`sâlo-hiti.îgɔ̂l.imà sâlo-hiti.îgbékpengɔ̀	tâ.á\`sâlo-hitiyékpe.îgɔ̂l.imà He is picking the good ripe orange.
5.	tǐ-gɔfi-bola-ninɛ.îl.ɔ́béi \`kpékpengɔ̀	tǐ-gɔfi-bola-ninayékpe.îl.ɔ́béi Their good new coffee cup is here.

(Tests 58 and 59)

CHAPTER TWELVE

INTRODUCTION TO THE TENSES

The three main tenses in Mende are the present tense, the future tense and the past tense. We have only seen the present tense in the verb yè (which has no form in the present tense) in present time sentences. The past tense occurs in two forms, the simple past and the perfect. The names are given to the tense constructions in question not because they have the exclusive function of indicating 'action that has been completed' (perfect), 'action to be done in the future' (future), etc., but because short, simple, non-complex sentences of a particular type are best translated into what we call present, future, perfect and past in English.* When these sentences are combined with other sentences in complex or compound sentences the actual temporal implications may not be comparable to the temporal implications of the terms perfect, future and past. This is not unusual in languages and a careful examination of the English tenses reveals similar taxonomic problems.

When sentences are formed in the tenses there is a new set of pronouns used. In each type of tense the particular form of the pronoun (which may appear quite different from tense to tense) may be traced back to a source exactly like pitch can be traced back to tonal source marks. These source pronouns are most likely to be the source of all pronoun forms in Mende. They are the primes from which all pronouns are derived and are called here the Prime Pronouns.

ngí	first person singular
bí	second person singular
(.ì)	third person singular (zero, no form, or .ì or `)
mǔ	first person plural
wǔ	second person plural
tǐ	third person plural

The prime pronouns undergo formal changes when combined with tense markers that tend to disguise them. These changes are for the most part regular and rational. Further changes, dependent on the nature of the subject and object in sentences with transitive verbs, may seem arbitrary and unnecessary.

The primes involved in the formation of the tenses are:

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*The future tense also expresses habitual action. All exercises are translated with an English future, however.

1. Future Tense
    a) Prime Pronouns
    b) .à (future marker)
    c) Verb (with or without a preceding object)
    d) ˋl.ɔ́ (deleted yɛ and emphatic l.ɔ́)

2. Past Tense: simple past form, intransitive
    a) Prime Pronouns
    b) .ì (past marker)
    c) Verb
    d) n.i (simple past marker, intransitive, gets tone from tonal sharing)
    e) ˋl.ɔ́ (deleted yɛ and emphatic l.ɔ́)

3. Past Tense: simple past form, transitive
    a) Prime Pronouns
    b) .ì (past marker)
    c) Object
    d) Verb
    e) n.ì (simple past marker, transitive; note difference in tone.)
    f) ˋl.ɔ́ (deleted yɛ and emphatic l.ɔ́)

4. Past Tense: perfect form, transitive and intransitive
    a) Prime Pronouns
    b) .ì (past marker)
    c) Verb (with or without a preceding object)
    d) ng.a (perfect marker, connect by tonal sharing)

Those are the primes involved. The explanations that follow for the tenses show the changes in pronoun primes when they occur in conjunction, and present further changes in the sentences due to the nature of the subject-object combination in sentences containing transitive verbs.

The Past Tense

The two forms of the past tense are the simple past and the perfect tense. Past tense refers to the form of the pronoun (or noun) and the marker used to indicate past tense. The perfect form refers to the pronoun (or noun) and the past tense marker and the perfect marker ng.a on the verb. The simple past refers to the pronoun (or noun) and the past tense marker and the simple past marker n.i (which gets tone by tonal extension or sharing) or n.ì.

1) When pronouns are the subjects of transitive or intransitive verbs, the vowel (and period) of the past tense marker .ì is deleted in all persons but the third person singular. The tonal source mark remains but there are also conditions under which this mark ˋ may be deleted. The tonal source mark can never be expressed by itself as an actual pitch but it does have an important role to fill in tonal mapping.

E.g. ngíˋgíl.ing.a 'I have thought.'
(¯ ‒ ‒ ‒)

Notice the downstep produced by the mark ˋ. Each vowel in the sentence is marked high. The mark ˋ after ngí causes a downstep between ngí and gíl.i. It stands for the past tense marker .ì.

2) Since the third person singular pronoun is Ø (zero, no form) and the .ì is not omitted in the third person singular, there is no ˋ between the subject .ì and the verb unless it stands for a deleted non-human pronoun.

.ìgulǎng.a (_ _ _ ‾)	'He has fallen.'
.ìˋkulǎng.a (_ _ _ ‾)	'He has dropped it.'

The mark ˋ could not affect the tone in this case anyway.

3) The tone of ng.a (or often only .a) is determined by the tonal unit affecting the vowel that precedes it. If the vowel is under the influence of a high tonal unit (as it is in gíl.i) the ng.a is also high.

gíl.ing.a
(‾ ‾ ‾)

If the last vowel is polarized, the a of ng.a will also be polarized.

gulǎ (_ ‾)	gulǎng.a (_ _ ‾)

4) The tone of mǔ, wǔ and tǐ, the plural prime pronouns, is high before the tone mark ˋ. The form .i which carried the mark is gone but the tone mark lingers on, subject to further deletions.

5) The vowel of the past tense marker is deleted except in the third person singular. There is no form for the third person singular subject.

Prime Pronoun	Past Tense Marker
ngí	ˋ
bí	ˋ
Ø	.ì
mǔ	ˋ
wǔ	ˋ
tǐ	ˋ

6) There are a few rules that must be followed in the past tense to produce proper Mende sentences.

a) When the subject of a sentence is in the past tense, the tense marker may be .ì or ˋ (tǐ, if plural). If the marker is .ì, there may be a pause between the noun subject and the form .ì, (representing Ø, third person singular?), e.g. músa.ìgíl.ing.a or músaˋgíl.ing.a, 'Musa has thought'. The same is true in sentences with transitive verbs.

b) Whenever ˋ alone (representing .ì) occurs before a pronoun (or prolocative), that ˋ is deleted. If ˋ occurs between two pronouns, the first pronoun must have its tone changed to high. (A polarized vowel before a ˋ which is deleted has its own tone determined before ` is deleted. The rule causing downstep is applied after any `'s are deleted. There is no downstep in pitch because there is no `.)

tǐ`músaléw.eng.a	They have cut Musa.
tíbíléw.eng.a	They have cut you.

The Future Tense

1) The marker of the future tense is .à. It too is deleted in all but the third person singular. Before it is deleted, there are some vowel assimilation changes that occur. Note the following.

Prime Pronoun	+	Future Marker	becomes
ngí		.à	ngá`
bí		.à	bá`
mǔ		.à	mǎ`
wǔ		.à	wǎ`
tǐ		.à	tǎ`

2) There is no formal indication of the third person singular and the .à is retained in that person.

Future Tense Pronouns

ngá `
bá `
.à
mǎ `
wǎ `
tǎ `

3) In short simple future tense sentences there is usually the affirmative emphatic `l.ɔ́ added after the verb representing *yɛ̀l.ɔ́* with yɛ deleted in the present. Only the ` remains resulting in polarized vowels before being high and resulting in the downstepping of l.ɔ́ after any high pitched vowel.

4) The plural pronouns (which are polarized) are high in pitch before the mark ` which remains from the future marker subject to conditions similar to the past tense.

a) Noun subjects in the future tense have future markers .à or tǎ`. The a is never deleted. A pause between a noun and the future marker .à may represent the third person singular, e.g. tɔmí,.à`pé.e`l.ɔ́ 'Tommy, he will do it'.

b) Rule b) from the past tense also applies to the future.

tǎ`músaléw.e`l.ɔ́	They will cut Musa.
tábíléw.e`l.ɔ́	They will cut you.

'The Dew is on the Calabash'

1) In the following drills there are again many sentences of 'The frost is on the pumpkin' type. They are there because they contain vocabulary that covers most of the tonal possibilities of the language. Consult the note on Specimen Sentences in Chapter Ten.

2) The deletions of certain consonants becomes a major factor in the rest of the course. The tapes have been recorded with moderate to maximum consonant deletion. Remember that all potentially deletable consonants are marked by a period that follows them. The n of n.i is always deleted before l.ɔ́. Since the material in this course is transcribed as much as possible in the lexical primes, forcing the student to learn and perform the changes, the deletable consonants are nearly always written in. The consonant deletions on the tape are subject to the interpretation of the meaning of the sentence, the whims of the speaker, his own sense of the prosody of his language and the instructions to delete consonants where possible. Sometimes reasons can be given for a deletion, sometimes not. Here are some.

a) It sounds better if X is deleted.

b) If I don't delete X, the sentence sounds too pedantic. It sounds like I am over-emphasising. I would not talk that way to some people.

c) I cannot delete X here because there could be an ambiguity.

d) No Mende man talks that way! (without deletions)

3) The transcription used here is unique to this book. You are to learn the sounds it stands for, but not how to write it. Think of it as a pants stretcher. You supply the pants and the stretcher gives them shape. You should not get the functions of these items mixed up.

4) There are at least four types of length in Mende. The student should be able to deal with the first three types.

a) Words that are always long like ná.âni and lɔ́.ɔ̂lu.

b) Words containing length from the deletion of consonants, pɛ́.ɛ from pɛ́l.ɛ.

c) Words marked vv̂ or vv̌ which are among the first to be lengthened in sentences, haǎ, kaâ for instance. It would be possible to mark these words as long (ha.ǎ, ka.â) except that they seem to vary between normal and lengthened, more or less unpredictably.

d) Words that are lengthened for prosodic reasons.

Summary

Having observed that the third person singular pronoun is represented by ̀ as an object and having observed that occasionally there is a third person singular form .ì (.ìgba 'it is different') that is not past tense, which has a negative .ì.ì (.ì.ìgba 'it is not different'), it is postulated that .ì as a third person singular non-human object usually has the form `. The form .ì occurs as a third person singular subject only under certain conditions. Notice in tǐ.ìgba ('They are not different.') that the person marker precedes the negative .ì. The same is true with .ì.ìgba. In .ì`pé.emà, 'He is not doing it.', the .ì must be the negative, although .ì.ì`pé.emà is possible. Since the form .ì is taken to stand for the third person singular subject pronoun, the negative marker for present and past, and the affirmative past tense marker, some decision must be made as to which .ì is what when only one is heard. It is postulated that the .ì found in negative sentences is always the negative marker. In past tense sentences, the .ì is thought to be the tense marker, not the pronoun, just as .à is the tense marker for the future. The reader (especially the reader who is familiar with traditional Mende grammar) should take note that the fact that .ì in .ìlǐn.i ('He went') is the indicator of the third person singular, is not challenged. It is suggested that this .ì (in .ìlǐn.i) is different from that in .ì`pé.emà ('He is not doing it.') and gbɔ̂.ɔ́.ì`pé.emà ('What is he doing?'). They all indicate various aspects of third person singular but may not be the same form.

It is further suggested that the forms of the pronouns in the tenses result from a combining of the prime pronouns and tense markers. The tense marker is assimilated in the case of the future, and in both tenses, the marker is dropped except in the third person singular where there is no form. The use of .ì and .à, past and future markers affixed to nouns and representing the third person singular totally is seen in such sentences as a. and c. (ϕ indicates a third person subject from .ì)

a. ϕ.à`pé.e`l.ɔ́ He will do it.

b. tɔmí.à`pé.e`l.ɔ́ Tommy will do it.

c. tɔmí,ϕ.à`pé.e`l.ɔ́ Tommy, he will do it.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

THE PAST TENSE, PERFECT FORM, AFFIRMATIVE

The use of the past tense, perfect form indicates that an action has been completed, much in the same way that the English perfect tenses do. The primary goal of this section will be the mastery of the formation of the perfect tense and the uses of the tense will be taken up elsewhere (see Chapter Twenty-two).*

The perfect form is formed by the combination of a past tense marker and a suffix on the verb. The suffix, ng.a, is very often simply .a. In sentences in the perfect form where the subject is a pronoun, the vowel of the tense marker .ì is deleted in all persons but the third person singular. When the vowel is deleted the tonal source mark remains, except before pronouns.

The suffix ng.a (or .a) is connected to the verb by tonal sharing (or tonal extension) in both transitive and intransitive verbs. The tone of the suffix is shown in these examples:

wǎng.a	(_ ‾)	has come
gíl.ing.a	(‾ ‾ ‾)	has thought
gbɔvɔ̂ng.a	(_ ‾ _)	has flourished
ηɔ̂nang.a	(‾ _ _)	has become bitter

Drill I. Add the perfect form suffix to these verbs. Use the mutated form of the verb if it is intransitive. The word 'it' in the translation indicates a transitive verb is being used in Mende.

1.	fénda	`féndang.a	has filled it
2.	fúka	`fúkang.a	has ground it
3.	hitǐ	hitǐng.a	has ripened
4.	ngóva	wóvang.a	has grown old
5.	paǎ	`paǎng.a	has killed it
6.	haǎ	haǎng.a	has died
7.	kulǎ	`kulǎng.a	has dropped it

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*The most important other use occurs when l.ɔ́ is added to ng.a. Then the translation of the sentence begins with If, When or After.

8.	ndǐ	yá*	has gone
9.	pǎ	wǎng.a	has come
10.	kíli	gíling.a	has thought
11.	kol.ě	gol.ěng.a	has become clean
12.	mbé	béng.a	has become dry
13.	hitǐ	hitǐng.a	has become mature
14.	minǐ	minǐng.a	has become heavy
15.	tɛl.ǐ	lɛl.ǐng.a	has become black
16.	fâl.i	`fâl.ing.a	has sowed it
17.	kpɛ́	`kpɛ́ng.a	has chased it
18.	togbɔ̌	logbɔ̌ng.a	has become withered
19.	tɛ́	`tɛ́ng.a	has raised it
20.	ndew.ě	`ndew.ěng.a	has beat it
21.	téw.e	`téw.eng.a	has chopped it
22.	kútu	gútung.a	has become short
23.	toɔ̌	`toɔ̌ng.a	has erected it
24.	ngíl.i	`ngíl.ing.a	has cooked it
25.	kpɛ́nyɛ	`kpɛ́nyɛng.a	has granulated it

Drill II. Make past tense, perfect form sentences from the following pronouns and intransitive verbs.

1.	bí ngóva	bí`wóvang.a	You have aged.
2.	ø hitǐ	.ìhitǐng.a	It has matured.
3.	ø tɛl.ǐ	.ìlɛl.ǐng.a	It has blackened.
4.	tǐ haǎ	tǐ`haǎng.a	They have died.
5.	mǔ kulǎ	mǔ`gulǎng.a	We have fallen.

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*yá is from lǐng.a → ǐ.a → ǐa → yá

6.	wǔ pǎ	wǔ`wǎng.a	You (pl.) have come.
7.	bí kíl.i	bí`gíl.ing.a	You have thought.
8.	0 kútu	.ìgútung.a	He has become short.
9.	ngí ndǐ	ngí`yá	I have gone. (idiom: Goodbye.)
10.	0 ndúla	.ìlúlang.a	It has rotted.
11.	0 togbǒ	.ìlogbǒng.a	It has withered.
12.	0 ndakpâ	.ìlakpâng.a	He has matured.
13.	0 mbé	.ìbéng.a	It has dried.
14.	tǐ ndǐ	tǐ`yá	They have gone.

Drill III. Make past tense, perfect form sentences from the following pronouns and intransitive verbs. Use the past tense marker .ì. There is usually a pause before .ì.

1.	tɔmí ngóva	tɔmí.ìwóvang.a	Tommy has aged.
2.	músa kíl.i	músa.ìgíl.ing.a	Musa has thought.
3.	núm.u.í pǎ	núm.u.î.ìwǎng.a	The person has come.
4.	tɔmí kulǎ	tɔmí.ìgulǎng.a	Tommy has fallen.
5.	nyâpo.í haǎ	nyâpo.î.ìhaǎng.a	The woman has died.
6.	fɛɛ̌.í tɛl.ǐ	fɛɛ̌.î.ìlɛl.ǐng.a	The pot has become black.
7.	ngúl.i.í ndúla	ngúl.i.î.ìlúla.nga	The wood has rotted.
8.	sɛ́l.ɛ.í hitǐ	sɛ́l.ɛ.î.ìhitǐng.a	The banana has matured.

Drill IV. Make past tense, perfect form sentences from the following pronouns and intransitive verbs. Use the past tense marker _̀.

1.	músa haǎ	músaˋhaǎng.a	Musa has died.
2.	nyâpo-wovɛ.í gulǎ	nyâpo-wovɛ.î.ˋgulǎng.a	The old woman has fallen.
3.	mahɛ̌.í ngóva	mahɛ̌.îˋwóvang.a	The chief has aged.
4.	fɛɛ̌.í tɛl.ǐ	fɛɛ̌.îˋlɛl.ǐng.a	The pot has become black.
5.	mbɛɛ̌.í ndúla	mbɛɛ̌.îˋlúlang.a	The rice has rotted.
6.	tɔmí pǎ	tɔmíˋwǎng.a	Tommy has come.
7.	hótɛ.í kíl.i	hótɛ.îˋgíl.ing.a	The guest has thought.
8.	sɛ́l.ɛ.í hitǐ	sɛ́l.ɛ.îˋhitǐng.a	The banana has become full grown.
9.	ndó.í kulǎ	ndó.îˋgulǎng.a	The child has fallen.

Drill V. Make past tense, perfect form sentences from the following non-human objects and pronoun subjects. The representative of the past tense marker (_̀) is deleted, the representative of the non-human object (_̀) is not deleted.

1.	bí fúka	bíˋfúkang.a	You have ground it.
2.	.ì téw.e	.ìˋtéw.eng.a	He has cut it.
3.	ngí hɔ́l.ɔ	ngíˋhɔ́l.ɔng.a	I have sewed it.
4.	bí kulǎ	bíˋkulǎng.a	You have dropped it.
5.	mǔ fâl.i	múˋfâl.ing.a	We have sewed it.
6.	.ì ngíl.i	.ìˋngíl.ing.a	He has cooked it.
7.	ngí kpɛ́	ngíˋkpɛ́ng.a	I have chased it.

8.	bí paǎ	bíˋpaǎng.a	You have killed it.
9.	tǐ pɔ́	tíˋpɔ́ng.a	They have felled it.
10.	ngí téw.e	ngíˋtéw.eng.a	I have cut it.
11.	ngí kɔ̂l.i	ngíˋkɔ̂l.ing.a	I have picked it.
12.	.ì fénda	.ìˋféndang.a	He has filled it.
13.	tǐ tɛ́	tíˋtɛ́ng.a	They have raised it.
14.	bí ndew.ɛ̌	bíˋndew.ɛ̌ng.a	You have beat it.
15.	bí fúka	bíˋfúkang.a	You have ground it.
16.	mǔ kpɛ́nyɛ	múˋkpɛ́nyɛng.a	We have granulated it.

Drill VI. Make past tense, perfect form sentences from the following pronoun subjects and objects. The representative of the past tense marker ˋ is deleted. Ø is the third person singular subject.

1.	ngí bí téw.e	ngíbíléw.eng.a	I have cut you.
2.	Ø nyá mbô	.ìnyábông.a	He has shot at me.
3.	mǔ tǐ paǎ	mútǐwaǎng.a	We have killed them.
4.	bí tǐ ngéya	bítǐyéyang.a	You have bought them.
5.	mǔ tǐ kpatɛ̂	mútǐgbatɛ̂ng.a	We have repaired them.
6.	bí tǐ muâ	bítǐmuâng.a	You have bathed them.

7.	tǐ bí kâva	tíbígâvang.a	They have cheated you.
8.	bí nyá fogbâ	bínyávɔ̀gbâng.a	You have whipped me.
9.	ngí bí kpɛ́	ngíbígbɛ́ng.a	I have chased you.
10.	mǔ tǐ pɔ́	mútǐwɔ́ng.a	We have felled them.

Drill VII. Make past tense, perfect form sentences from the following pronoun subjects and noun objects. The ` is not omitted.

1.	ngí ngúl.i.í téw.e	ngí`ngúl.i.îléw.eng.a	I have cut the tree.
2.	bí njɛɛ̌.í téw.e	bí`njɛɛ̌.îléw.eng.a	You have crossed the river.
3.	mǔ nyɔɔ̌.í kpɛ́nyɛ	mǔ`nyɔɔ̌.îgbɛ́nyɛng.a	We have ground the corn.
4.	tǐ ngúl.i.í pɔ́	tǐ`ngúl.i.îwɔ́ng.a	They have felled the tree.
5.	ngí sâlo.í kɔ̂l.i	ngí`sâlo.îgɔ̂l.ing.a	I have picked the orange.
6.	mǔ pɛ́l.ɛ.í toǒ	mǔ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒng.a	We have erected the house.
7.	0 fɛɛ̌.í fénda	.ìfɛɛ̌.îvéndang.a	He has filled the pot.
8.	bí bɛɛ́si.í paǎ	bí`bɛɛ́si.îwaǎng.a	You have killed the pig.
9.	tǐ sɛ́l.ɛ.í ngéya	tǐ`sɛ́l.ɛ.îyéyang.a	They have bought the banana.

10.	tǐ nikǎ-huɛ.í mɛ̌	tǐˋnikǎ-huɛ.îmɛ̌ng.a	They have eaten the beef.

Drill VIII. Make past tense, perfect form sentences from the following noun subjects and objects. The past tense marker is .ì. There is usually a pause before .ì.

1.	músa núm.u.í téw.e	músa.ìnúm.u.îléw.eng.a	Musa has cut the person.
2.	kúgbɛ.í ngúl.i.í pɔ́	kúgbɛ.î.ìngúl.i.îwɔ́ng.a	The warrior has felled the tree.
3.	ndó.í njɛɛ̌.í téw.e	ndó.î.ìnjɛɛ̌.îléw.eng.a	The child has crossed the river.
4.	nyâpo.í nyɔɔ̌.í kpényɛ	nyâpo.î.ìnyɔɔ̌.îgbényɛng.a	The woman has granulated the corn.
5.	ndó.í sâlo.í kɔ̂l.i	ndó.î.ìsâlo.îgɔ̂l.ing.a	The child has picked the orange.
6.	hiîndo.í pɛ́l.ɛ.í toǒ	hiîndo.î.ìpɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒng.a	The man has put up the house.
7.	nyahɛ̂.í fɛɛ̌.í fénda	nyahɛ̂.î.ìfɛɛ̌.îvéndang.a	The wife has filled the pot.
8.	hiîndo.í bɛɛ́si.í paǎ	hiîndo.î.ìbɛɛ́si.îwaǎng.a	The man has killed the pig.
9.	nyahɛ̂.í kulɛ̌.í ngéya	nyahɛ̂.î.ìkulɛ̌.îyéyang.a	The wife brought the cloth.
10.	nyâpo-wovɛ.í sɛ́l.ɛ.í mɛ̌	nyâpo-wovɛ.î.ìsɛ́l.ɛ.îmɛ̌ng.a	The old woman has eaten the banana.

Drill IX. Make perfect form sentences. The past tense marker is ˋ.

1.	núm.u.íná ndó.í téw.e	núm.uínâˋndó.îléw.eng.a	That person has cut the child.

2.	mahɛ̌.í njɛɛ̌.í téw.e	mahɛ̌.î`njɛɛ̌.îléw.eng.a	The chief crossed the river.
3.	músa sâlo.í mɛ̌	músa`sâlo.îmɛ̌ng.a	Musa has eaten the banana.
4.	kúgbɛ.íjí bɛɛ́si.í paǎ	kúgbɛ.íjî`bɛɛ́si.îwaǎng.a	This warrior has killed the pig.
5.	hiîndo.íná mɔtó.í ngéya	hiîndo.ínâ`mɔtó.îyéyang.a	That man has bought the car.
6.	tɔmí fakâl.i.í kɔ̂l.i	tɔmí`fakâl.i.îgɔ̂l.ing.a	Tommy has picked the pawpaw.
7.	hiîndo-wovɛ.í pɛ́l.ɛ-ninɛ.í toǒ	hiîndo-wovɛ.î`pɛ́l.ɛ-ninɛ.îloǒng.a	The old man has built a new house.
8.	nyâpo.í ndomǎ-ninɛ.í hɔ́l.ɔ	nyâpo.î`ndomǎ-ninɛ.îhɔ́l.ɔng.a	The woman has sewed the new shirt.
9.	músa njaǎ-waa.á téw.e	músa`njaǎ-waa.âléw.eng.a	Musa has crossed the big river.
10.	tɔmí fandɛ̌-gulɛ.í ngéya	tɔmí`fandɛ̌-gulɛ.îyéyang.a	Tommy has bought the cotton cloth.

Drill X. Make perfect form sentences with the following plural noun subjects and noun objects. The forms tǐ` mark the past tense.

1.	hiîndo.îsià ngúl.i.í téw.e	hiîndo.îsiàtǐ`ngúl.i.îléw.eng.a	The men have cut the wood.
2.	nyâpo.îsià nyɔɔ̌.í kpɛ́nyɛ	nyâpo.îsiàtǐ`nyɔɔ̌.îgbɛ́nyɛng.a	The women have granulated the corn.
3.	ndó.îsià sɛ́lɛ.îsià ngéya	ndó.îsiàtǐ`sɛ́lɛ.îsiàyéyang.a	The children have bought the bananas.
4.	nungɛ̂.ɛ.îsià nikɛ̌.îsià paǎ	nungɛ̂.ɛ.îsiàtǐ`nikɛ̌.îsiàwaǎng.a	The people have killed the cows.

5.	nyahɛ̂.îsià jagbɛ.îsià fénda	nyahɛ̂.îsiàtǐ`jagbɛ.îsiàvéndang.a	The women have filled the basins.
6.	hiîndo.îsià kûli.í toǒ	hiîndo.îsiàtǐ`kûli.îloǒng.a	The men have built the shed.
7.	bɛɛ́si.îsià mbɛɛ̌.í mɛ̌	bɛɛ́si.îsiàtǐ`mbɛɛ̌.îmɛ̌ng.a	The pigs have eaten the rice.
8.	nyahâ-wovɛ.îsià nyahâ-ninɛ.í ndew.ě	nyahâ-wovɛ.îsiàtǐ`nyahâ-ninɛ.îlew.ěng.a	The old wives have beaten the young wife.
9.	ndó.îsià nyɛ́.îsià kpɛ́	ndó.îsiàtǐ`nyɛ́.îsiàgbɛ́ng.a	The boys have fished for (chased) the fish.
10.	ndopô.îsià gbɛhɛ́.í kpatɛ̂	ndopô.îsiàtǐ`gbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂ng.a	The boys will repair the bench.

Drill XI. Form the perfect form sentences from the following singular noun subjects and pronoun objects. The past tense is marked by .ì.

1.	tɔmí nyá ndew.ě	tɔmí.ìnyálèw.ěng.a	Tommy has beat me.
2.	músa bí kpɛ́	músa.ìbígbɛ́ng.a	Musa has chased you.
3.	nyâpo.í tǐ ngíl.i	nyâpo.î.ìtǐyíl.ing.a	The woman has cooked them.
4.	kúgbɛ.í tǐ pɔ́	kúgbɛ.î.ìtǐwɔ́ng.a	The warrior has hewn them.
5.	bɛɛ́si.íná tǐ mɛ̌	bɛɛ́si.ínâ.ìtǐmɛ̌ng.a	That pig has eaten them.
6.	hél.e.í bí kpɛ́	hél.e.í.ìbígbɛ́ng.a	The elephant has chased you.

7.	músa nyá fogbâ	músa.ìnyávògbâng.a	Musa has whipped me.
8.	nyangbě.í tǐ mɛ̌	nyangbě.î.ìtǐmɛ̌ng.a	The fox has eaten them.
9.	hiîndo.í mǔ mbô	hiîndo.î.ìmǔbông.a	The man has shot at us.
10.	mahɛ̌.í tǐ ndew.ě	mahɛ̌.î.ìtǐlew.ěng.a	The chief has beat them.

Drill XII. Combine as in XI. but .ì is deleted.

1.	músa bí ndew.ě	músabílèw.ěng.a	Musa has beat you.
2.	nyangbě.í tǐ kpɛ́	nyangbě.ítǐgbɛ́ng.a *	The fox has chased them.
3.	nyahɛ̂.í tǐ ngíl.i	nyahɛ̂.ítǐyíl.ing.a	The wife has cooked them.
4.	tɔmí mǔ kpɛ́	tɔmímǔgbɛ́ng.a	Tommy has chased us.
5.	hiîndo.í nyá fogbâ	hiîndo.ínyávògbâng.a	The man has whipped me.
6.	kênɛ.í tǐ mbô	kênɛ.ítǐbông.a	The man has shot at them.
7.	kúgbɛ.í tǐ mɛ̌	kúgbɛ.ítǐmɛ̌ng.a	The warrior has eaten them.
8.	músa nyá kpɛ́	músanyágbɛ́ng.a	Musa has chased me.
9.	músa tǐ kpɛ́	músatǐgbɛ́ng.a	Musa has chased them.

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* .í does not become .î before pronouns.

10.	músa tǐ fénda	músatǐvéndang.a	Musa has filled them.

Drill XIII. Form perfect form sentences with these plural nouns. The form tǐ` is the past marker.

1.	ngúl.i.îsià togbǒ	ngúl.i.îsiàtǐ`logbǒng.a	The trees have withered.
2.	sɛ́lɛ.îsià hitǐ	sɛ́lɛ.îsiàtǐ`hitǐng.a	The bananas have matured.
3.	kênɛ.îsià pǎ	kênɛ.îsiàtǐ`wǎng.a	The men have come.
4.	ndó.îsià ndǐ	ndó.îsiàtǐ`yá	The children have gone.
5.	mahɛ̌.îsià ngóva	mahɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`wóvang.a	The chiefs have aged.
6.	tawǎ-law.ɛ.îsià mbé	tawǎ-lawɛ.îsiàtǐ`béng.a	The tobacco leaves have dried.
7.	sɛ́lɛ.îsià ndúla	sɛ́lɛ.îsiàtǐ`lúlang.a	The bananas have rotted.
8.	ndomɛ̌.îsià mbé	ndomɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`béng.a	The shirts have dried.
9.	tangɛ̌.îsià kpakpǎ	tangɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`gbakpǎng.a	The cassavas have become fibrous.
10.	pɛ́l.ɛ.îsià kulǎ	pɛ́l.ɛîsiàtǐ`gulǎng.a	The houses have fallen.

Drill XIV. Form perfect form sentences from these plural nouns and pronoun objects. The sign of the past is tí.

1.	nyâpo.îsià tǐ ndew.ɛ̌	nyâpo.îsiàtítǐlew.ɛ̌ng.a	The women have beat them.
2.	hiîndo.îsià tǐ téw.e	hiîndo.îsiàtítǐléw.eng.a	The men have cut them.
3.	bɛɛ́si.îsià mǔ kpɛ́	bɛɛ́si.îsiàtímǔgbɛ́ng.a	The pigs have chased us.
4.	kênɛ.îsià Ø toǒ	kenɛ.isiàtí`toǒng.a	The men have built it.

5.	nyahɛ̂.îsià tǐ fénda	nyahɛ̂.îsiàtítǐvéndang.a	The wives have filled them.
6.	ndopô.îsià nyá kpɛ́	ndopô.îsiàtínyágbɛ́ng.a	The boys have chased me.
7.	ndó.îsià bí kpɛ́	ndó.îsiàtíbígbɛ́ng.a	The children have chased you.
8.	nyahɛ̂.îsià bí ndew.ɛ̌	nyahɛ̂.îsiàtíbílɛ̀w.ɛ̌ng.a	The wives have beat you.
9.	ndopô.îsià tǐ kpatɛ̂	ndopô.îsiàtítǐgbatɛ̂ng.a	The boys have repaired them.
10.	mahɛ̌.îsià tǐ mɛ̌	mahɛ̌.îsiàtítǐmɛ̌ng.a	The chiefs have eaten them.

(Tests 60 and 61)

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

THE PAST TENSE, SIMPLE PAST FORM, AFFIRMATIVE

(The student is expected to make reference to the lexicon for the meanings of new words as a regular part of his daily preparations. New words are underscored.)

The past tense marker operates in the simple past form exactly the same way that it operates in the perfect form. The marker of the simple past form is n.ì (always .ì, if l.ɔ́ follows) with transitive verbs, and n.i (tone determined by tonal sharing) with intransitive verbs. There are some verbs that seem to 'favor' n.i or n.ì over .i or .ì but there is no strict rule concerning the deletion of n except that it is always deleted when n.i is followed by `l.ɔ́. In this course the n is always written and the student will delete it whenever the teacher does.* In short simple sentences in the simple past form the present tense emphatic is usually used. This form `l.ɔ́ represents the present tense of yɛ̀ which is only ` in the present and the emphatic l.ɔ́. The following drills are intended to give the student facility in forming the past tense, simple past form.

Drill I. Add the simple past suffix n.i to the following intransitive verbs. Use the mutated form of the consonants. Add `l.ɔ́ to the verb.

1.	hitǐ	hítǐn.i`l.ɔ́	became mature
2.	ngóva	wóvan.i`l.ɔ́	became old
3.	haǎ	haǎn.i`l.ɔ́	died
4.	ndǐ	lǐn.i`l.ɔ́	went
5.	pǎ	wǎn.i`l.ɔ́	came
6.	kíl.i	gíl.in.i`l.ɔ́	thought
7.	mbé	bén.i`l.ɔ́	dried
8.	minǐ	minǐn.i`l.ɔ́	become heavy
9.	tɛl.ǐ	lɛl.ǐn.i`l.ɔ́	became black

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*It is irksome to have to ignore the n that is written but never pronounced when n.i or n.ì is followed by `l.ɔ́. Nevertheless, the student must learn when to delete n in speaking Mende. Writing the n in this chapter is intended to make the student rely on the rule he is asked to learn rather than on the transcription.

10.	togbɔ̌	logbɔ̌n.iˋl.ɔ́	withered
11.	fisǎ	fisǎn.iˋl.ɔ́	improved
12.	kútu	gútun.iˋl.ɔ́	shortened
13.	fále	válen.iˋl.ɔ́	sprouted
14.	nyámu	nyámun.iˋl.ɔ́	became bad
15.	ndúla	lúlan.iˋl.ɔ́	rotted
16.	togbɔ̌	logbɔ̌n.iˋl.ɔ́	withered
17.	ndakpâ	lakpân.iˋl.ɔ́	matured
18.	hɛ́l.ɛ	hɛ́l.ɛn.iˋl.ɔ́	squatted
19.	hitɛ̂	hitɛ̂n.iˋl.ɔ́	descended
20.	kɔndî	gɔndîn.iˋl.ɔ́	snored
21.	kpâw.o	gbâw.on.iˋl.ɔ́	shouted, howled
22.	kpíni	gbínin.iˋl.ɔ́	coiled
23.	mɛl.ǐ	mɛl.ǐn.iˋl.ɔ́	grazed
24.	sɛ̂l.i	jɛ̂l.in.iˋl.ɔ́	prayed
25.	tisô	lisôn.iˋl.ɔ́	sneezed

Drill II. Add the simple past suffix n.ì to the following transitive verbs. Add ˋl.ɔ́ to the verbs.

1.	toǒ	ˋtoǒn.ìˋl.ɔ́	built it
2.	kulǎ	ˋkulǎn.ìˋl.ɔ́	dropped it
3.	téw.e	ˋtéw.en.ìˋl.ɔ́	cut it
4.	kpɛ́nyɛ	ˋkpɛ́nyɛn.ìˋl.ɔ́	granulated it
5.	pɔ́	ˋpɔ́n.ìˋl.ɔ́	felled it
6.	fúka	ˋfúkan.ìˋl.ɔ́	ground it
7.	paǎ	ˋpaǎn.ìˋl.ɔ́	killed it
8.	ndew.ě	ˋndew.ěn.ìˋl.ɔ́	beat it
9.	fénda	ˋféndan.ìˋl.ɔ́	filled it
10.	kɔ̂l.i	ˋkɔ̂l.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	picked it

11.	fâl.i	ˋfâl.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	sowed it
12.	ngéya	ˋngéyan.ìˋl.ɔ́	bought it
13.	mɛ̌	ˋmɛ̌n.ìˋl.ɔ́	ate it
14.	hɔ́l.ɔ	ˋhɔ́l.ɔn.ìˋl.ɔ́	sewed it
15.	kpɛ́	ˋkpɛ́n.ìˋl.ɔ́	chased it
16.	tɛ́	ˋtɛ́n.ìˋl.ɔ́	raised it
17.	nɛmû	ˋnɛmûn.ìˋl.ɔ́	wounded it
18.	ngíl.i	ˋngíl.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	cooked it
19.	ngál.i	ˋngál.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	broke it
20.	pawa	ˋpawan.ìˋl.ɔ́	paid for it
21.	muâ	ˋmuân.ìˋl.ɔ́	bathed it
22.	kpatɛ̂	ˋkpatɛ̂n.ìˋl.ɔ́	repaired it
23.	kaâ	ˋkaân.ìˋl.ɔ́	read it
24.	kpê	ˋkpên.ìˋl.ɔ́	looked at it
25.	fɔnî	ˋfɔnîn.ìˋl.ɔ́	pinched it
26.	mbô	ˋmbôn.ìˋl.ɔ́	shot it
27.	kâva	ˋkâvan.ìˋl.ɔ́	cheated it
28.	fogbâ	ˋfogbân.ìˋl.ɔ́	whipped it
29.	fawɔ̂l.i	ˋfawɔ̂l.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	disturbed it

Drill III. Make past tense, simple past form sentences from the following pronouns and intransitive verbs. The past tense is represented by ˋ.

1.	ngí kulǎ	ngíˋgulǎn.iˋl.ɔ́	I fell.
2.	0 kpakpǎ	.ìgbakpǎn.iˋl.ɔ́	It became woody.
3.	0 kol.ě	.ìgol.ěn.iˋl.ɔ́	It became white.
4.	0 ndúla	.ìlúlan.iˋl.ɔ́	It rotted.
5.	0 hitǐ	.ìhitǐn.iˋl.ɔ́	It matured.

6.	bí ngóva	bí`wóvan.i`l.ɔ́	You aged.
7.	tǐ haǎ	tǐ`haǎn.i`l.ɔ́	They died.
8.	ø kpandǐ	.ìgbandǐn.i`l.ɔ́	It heated up.
9.	tǐ kpotǒ	tǐ`gbotǒn.i`l.ɔ́	They became beautiful.
10.	bí ndǐ	bí`lǐn.i`l.ɔ́	You went.
11.	ø njeyě	.ìyeyěn.i`l.ɔ́	It became stale.
12.	ngí pǎ	ngí`wǎn.i`l.ɔ́	I came.
13.	tǐ kpɔvɔ̂	tǐ`gbɔvɔ̂n.i`l.ɔ́	They flourished.
14.	mǔ kíl.i	mǔ`gíl.in.i`l.ɔ́	We thought.
15.	ø mbé	.ìbén.i`l.ɔ́	It dried.
16.	ø minǐ	.ìminǐn.i`l.ɔ́	It became heavy.
17.	tǐ ηɔ̂na	tǐ`ηɔ̂nan.i`l.ɔ́	They became bitter.
18.	ø súsu	.ìjúsun.i`l.ɔ́	It became deep.
19.	tǐ tɛl.ǐ	tǐ`lɛl.ǐn.i`l.ɔ́	They became black.
20.	ø togbǒ	.ìlogbǒn.i`l.ɔ́	It withered.
21.	ngí fisǎ	ngí`fisǎn.i`l.ɔ́	I improved.
22.	ø kútu	.ìgútun.i`l.ɔ́	He got short.
23.	tǐ fále	tǐ`válen.i`l.ɔ́	They sprouted.
24.	tǐ nyámu	tǐ`nyámun.i`l.ɔ́	They became bad.

25.	Ø ndúla	.ìlúlan.i`l.ɔ́	It rotted.
26.	tǐ ndakpâ	tǐ`lakpân.i`l.ɔ́	They matured.
27.	mǔ hɛ́l.ɛ	mǔ`hɛ́l.ɛn.i`l.ɔ́	We squatted.
28.	bí hitɛ̂	bí`hitɛ̂n.i`l.ɔ́	You came down.
29.	mǔ kɔndî	mǔ`gɔndîn.i`l.ɔ́	We snored.
30.	tǐ kpâw.o	tǐ`gbâw.on.i`l.ɔ́	They howled.
31.	Ø kpíni	.ìgbínin.i`l.ɔ́	It coiled.
32.	tǐ mɛl.ǐ	tǐ`mɛl.ǐn.i`l.ɔ́	They grazed.
33.	wǔ sɛ̂l.i	wǔ`jɛ̂l.in.i`l.ɔ́	You (pl.) prayed.
34.	ngí tisô	ngí`lisôn.i`l.ɔ́	

Drill IV. Make past tense, simple past form sentences from the following nouns and intransitive verbs. Use the past tense marker .ì.

1.	músa kíl.i	músa.ìgíl.in.i`l.ɔ́	Musa thought.
2.	fakâl.i.í hitǐ	fakâl.i.î.ìhitǐn.i`l.ɔ́	The pawpaw matured.
3.	kpanâ ngóva	kpanâ.ìwóvan.i`l.ɔ́	Kpana aged.
4.	hagbě.í haǎ	hagbě.î.ìhaǎn.i`l.ɔ́	The rabbit died.
5.	kênɛ.í ndǐ	kênɛ.î.ìlǐn.i`l.ɔ́	The man went.
6.	ndáw.ɛ.í mbé	ndáw.ɛ.î.ìbén.i`l.ɔ́	The leaf dried.
7.	kɔ̂w.i.í minǐ	kɔ̂w.i.î.ìminǐ.n.i`l.ɔ́	The box became heavy.
8.	ndá.a.á togbǒ	ndá.a.â.ìlogbǒn.i`l.ɔ́	The leaf withered.

9.	nɛsí fisǎ	nɛsí.ìfisǎn.iˋl.ɔ́	Nesi became better.
10.	mbɛɛ̌.í fál.e	mbɛɛ̌.î.ìválen.iˋl.ɔ́	The rice sprouted.
11.	gboji.í ndúla	gboji.î.ìlúlan.iˋl.ɔ́	The plum rotted.
12.	fakâl.i.í hitǐ	fakâl.i.î.ìhitǐn.iˋl.ɔ́	The pawpaw matured.
13.	kpanâ hɛ́l.ɛ	kpanâ.ìhɛ́l.ɛn.iˋl.ɔ́	Kpana stooped down.
14.	ndó.íná hitɛ̂	ndó.ínâ.ìhitɛ̂n.iˋl.ɔ́	That child came down.
15.	kêna-wovɛ.í kɔndî	kêna-wovɛ.î.ìgɔndîn.iˋl.ɔ́	The old man snored.
16.	ngî.la kpâw.o	ngî.lɛ.î.ìgbâw.on.iˋl.ɔ́	The dog howled.
17.	ngeyɛ̌.í kpíni	ngeyɛ̌.î.ìgbínin.iˋl.ɔ́	The rope twisted.
18.	nikɛ̌.í mɛl.ǐ	nikɛ̌.î.ìmɛl.ǐn.iˋl.ɔ́	The cow grazed.
19.	nyâpo-wovɛ.í sɛ̂l.i	nyâpo-wovɛ.î.ìjɛ̂l.in.iˋl.ɔ́	The old woman prayed.
20.	ndopô.í tisô	ndopô.î.ìlisôn.iˋl.ɔ́	The boy sneezed.

Drill V. Combine the following as above (in IV) but use ˋ as the past tense marker.

1.	nyáǹjé tisô	nyáǹjéˋlisôn.iˋl.ɔ́	My mother sneezed.
2.	kpanâ sɛ̂l.i	kpanâˋjɛ̂l.in.iˋl.ɔ́	Kpana prayed.
3.	njé mɛl.ǐ	njéˋmɛl.ǐn.iˋl.ɔ́	The goat grazed.
4.	ngeyɛ̌.í kpíni	ngeyɛ̌.î ˋ gbíni.iˋl.ɔ́	The rope twisted.
5.	ndó.í hɛ́l.ɛ	ndó.îˋhɛ́l.ɛn.iˋl.ɔ́	The child squatted.

6.	músa hitɛ̂	músa`hitɛ̂n.i`l.ɔ́	Musa came down.
7.	nyákɛ̀kɛ kɔndî	nyákɛ̀kɛ`gɔndîn.i`l.ɔ́	My father snores.
8.	tangɛ̌.í hitǐ	tangɛ̌.î`hitǐn.i`l.ɔ́	The cassava matured.
9.	nɛsí ngóva	nɛsí`wóvan.i`l.ɔ́	Nesi aged.
10.	fakâl.i.í ndúla	fakâl.i.î`lúlan.i`l.ɔ́	The pawpaw rotted.
11.	gboji.í hitǐ	gboji.î`hitǐn.i`l.ɔ́	The plum ripened.
12.	njowɔ̌.í fále	njowɔ̌.î`válen.i`l.ɔ́	The potato sprouted.
13.	mahɛ̌.í fisǎ	mahɛ̌.î`fisǎn.i`l.ɔ́	The chief became better.
14.	ngúl.i.í togbɔ̌	ngúl.i.î`logbɔ̌n.i`l.ɔ́	The tree withered.
15.	mbɛɛ̌.í mbé	mbɛɛ̌.î`bén.i`l.ɔ́	The rice dried.
16.	nɛsí ndǐ	nɛsí`lǐn.i`l.ɔ́	Nesi went.
17.	nyínɛ.í haǎ	nyínɛ.î`haǎn.i`l.ɔ́	The rat died.

Drill VI. Form past tense, simple past form sentences with the following plural nouns and intransitive verbs. Use tǐ`.

1.	nyâpo.îsià kulǎ	nyâpo.îsiàtǐ`gulǎn.i`l.ɔ́	The women fell.
2.	fakâl.i.îsià kpotɔ̌	fakâl.i.îsiàtǐ`gbotɔ̌n.i`l.ɔ́	The pawpaws became plentiful.
3.	ndomɛ̌.îsià kol.ɛ̌	ndomɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`gol.ɛ̌n.i`l.ɔ́	The shirts became white.
4.	nyínɛ.îsià haǎ	nyínɛ.îsiàtǐ`haǎn.i`l.ɔ́	The rats died.
5.	gboji.îsià hitǐ	gboji.îsiàtǐ`hitǐn.i`l.ɔ́	The plums matured.

6.	tangɛ̌.îsià kpakpǎ	tangɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`gbakpǎn.i`l.ɔ́	The cassava became woody.
7.	kênɛ.îsià ndǐ	kênɛ.îsiàtǐ`lǐn.i`l.ɔ́	The men went.
8.	njowǒ.îsià fále	njowǒ.îsiàtǐ`válen.i`l.ɔ́	The potatoes sprouted.
9.	hiîndo-wovɛ.îsià kɔndî	hiîndo-wovɛ.îsiàtǐ`gɔndîn.i`l.ɔ́	The old men snored.

<u>Drill VII.</u> Combine these pronoun subjects, non-human pronoun objects, (_̀), and transitive verbs to make simple past form sentences. Polarized vowels are written high indicating the deletion of _̀ before pronouns.

1.	bí 0 fénda	bí`féndan.ì`l.ɔ́	You filled it.
2.	ngí 0 fúka	ngí`fúkan.ì`l.ɔ́	I ground it.
3.	0 0 paǎ	.ì`paǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	He killed it.
4.	mǔ 0 kulǎ	mú`kulǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	We dropped it.
5.	tǐ 0 fâl.i	tí`fâl.in.ì`l.ɔ́	They sowed it.
6.	mǔ 0 kpɛ́	mú`kpɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	We chased it.
7.	bí 0 tɛ́	bí`tɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	You raised it.
8.	tǐ 0 ndew.ě	tí`ndew.ěn.ì`l.ɔ́	They beat it.
9.	ngí 0 ngíl.i	ngí`ngíl.in.ì`l.ɔ́	I cooked it.
10.	tǐ 0 kpɛ́nyɛ	tí`kpɛ́nyɛn.ì`l.ɔ́	They granulated it.

11.	mǔ 0 téw.e	mú`téw.en.ì`l.ɔ́	We cut it.
12.	ngí 0 kú	ngí`kún.ì`l.ɔ́	I smelled it.
13.	tǐ 0 kpuǎ	tí`kpuǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	They pulled it out.
14.	mǔ 0 toǒ	mú`toǒn.ì`l.ɔ́	We built it.
15.	tǐ 0 pɔ́	tí`pɔ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	They felled it.
16.	bí 0 ngéya	bí`ngéyan.ì`l.ɔ́	You bought it.
17.	mǔ 0 mɛ̌	mú`mɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	We ate it.
18.	0 0 hɔ́l.ɔ	.ì`hɔ́l.ɔn.ì`l.ɔ́	She sewed it.
19.	bí 0 nɛmû	bí`nɛmûn.ì`l.ɔ́	You wounded it.
20.	0 0 ngál.i	.ì`ngál.in.ì`l.ɔ́	He broke it.
21.	tǐ 0 pawa	tí`pawan.ì`l.ɔ́	They paid for it.
22.	0 0 muâ	.ì`muân.ì`l.ɔ́	She bathed it.
23.	wǐ 0 kpatɛ̂	wú`gbatɛ̂n.ì`l.ɔ́	You (pl.) repaired it.
24.	tǐ 0 kaâ	tí`kaân.ì`l.ɔ́	They read it.

25.	ngí ø fɔnî	ngí` fɔnîn.ì`l.ɔ́	I pinched it.
26.	ø ø mbô	.ì`mbôn.ì`l.ɔ́	He shot at it.
27.	mǔ ø fogbâ	mú` fogbân.ì`l.ɔ́	We whipped it.

Drill VIII. Combine the following as above. Use tí, mú, wú; delete `.

1.	ngí bí kâva	ngíbígâvan.ì`l.ɔ́	I cheated you.
2.	mǔ tǐ pɔ́	mútǐwɔ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	We felled them.
3.	tǐ mǔ kpɛ́	tímǔgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	They chased us.
4.	bí nyá fogbâ	bínyávògbân.ì`l.ɔ́	You whipped me.
5.	ø tǐ muâ	.ìtǐmuân.ì`l.ɔ́	She bathed them.
6.	mǔ tǐ kpatɛ̂	mútǐgbatɛ̂n.ì`l.ɔ́	We repaired them.
7.	bí tǐ ngéya	bítǐyéyan.ì`l.ɔ́	You bought them.
8.	wǔ tǐ paǎ	wútǐwaǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	You (pl.) killed them.
9.	bí nyá téw.e	bínyáléw.en.ì`l.ɔ́	You cut me
10.	ø nyá mbô	.ìnyábôn.ì`l.ɔ́	He shot at me.

11.	ngí ngǐ fɔnî	ngíngǐvɔnîn.ì`l.ɔ́	I pinched her.
12.	mǔ tǐ kaâ	mútǐgaân.ì`l.ɔ́	We read them.

Drill IX. Combine the following pronoun subjects, noun objects and transitive verbs. The past tense marker is _̀.

1.	tǐ njé-huɛ.í mɛ̌	tǐ`njé-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	They ate the goat meat.
2.	mǔ sɛ́l.ɛ.îsià ngéya	mǔ`sɛ́lɛ.îsiàyéyan.ì`l.ɔ́	We bought the bananas.
3.	tǐ sámbɛ.í fénda	tǐ`sámbɛ.îvéndan.ì`l.ɔ́	They filled the basket.
4.	0 pɛ́l.ɛ.íná toǒ	.ìpɛ́l.ɛ.ínâloǒn.ì`l.ɔ́	He built that house.
5.	ngí sɛ́l.ɛ.í kulǎ	ngí`sɛ́l.ɛ.îgulǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	I dropped the banana.
6.	ngí njɛɛ̌.í téw.e	ngí`njɛɛ̌.îléw.en.ì`l.ɔ́	I crossed the river.
7.	mǔ nyɔɔ̌.í fúka	mǔ`nyɔɔ̌.îvúkan.ì`l.ɔ́	We ground the corn.
8.	bí hagbɛ̌.í kpɛ́	bí`hagbɛ̌.îgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	You chased the rabbit.
9.	0 bɔndɛ́.í ngíl.i	.ìbɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ì`l.ɔ́	She cooked the okra.
10.	0 bafɛ.í toǒ	.ìbafɛ.îloǒn.ì`l.ɔ́	He built the hut.

Drill X. Make past tense, simple past form sentences from the following noun subjects and objects. The past tense marker is .ì.

1.	ngî.lɛ.í hagbɛ̌.í kpɛ́	ngî.lɛ.î.ìhagbɛ̌.îgbɛ́n.ìˋl.ɔ́	The dog chased the rabbit.
2.	hiîndo.í *ndɛndɛ̌.í* kpatɛ̂	hiîndo.î.ìndɛndɛ̌.îgbatɛ̂n.ìˋl.ɔ́	The man made a boat.
3.	nyahɛ̂.í *beté.í* ngíl.i	nyahɛ̂.î.ìbeté.îyíl.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	The wife cooked the sauce.
4.	ndó.í *bônga* ngéya	ndó.î.ìbôngayéyan.ìˋl.ɔ́	The child bought a bonga.
5.	kênɛ.í kal.ǐ.í nɛmû	kênɛ.î.ìkal.ǐ.înɛmûn.ìˋl.ɔ́	The man wounded the snake.
6.	hótɛ.í bɛɛ́si-huɛ.í mɛ̌	hótɛ.î.ìbɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ìˋl.ɔ́	The guest ate the pork.
7.	núm.u.íná ngúl.i.í ngál.i	núm.u.ínâ.ìngúl.i.îyál.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	That person broke the stick.
8.	nyahɛ̂.í ndó.í muâ	nyahɛ̂.î.ìndó.îmuân.ìˋl.ɔ́	The wife bathed the child.
9.	nyâpo.í hákpɛ.í kú	nyâpo.î.ìhákpɛ.îgún.ìˋl.ɔ́	The woman smelled the sauce.
10.	músa sâlo.í kɔ̂l.i	músa.ìsâlo.îgɔ̂l.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	Musa picked the orange.

Drill XI. Combine as in X. but use ˋ as the past tense marker.

1.	músa fandɛ̌-gulɛ.í ngéya	músaˋfandɛ̌-gulɛ.îyéyan.ìˋl.ɔ́	Musa bought the cotton cloth.
2.	tɔmí njɛɛ̌.í téw.e	tɔmíˋnjɛɛ̌.îléw.en.ìˋl.ɔ́	Tommy crossed the river.
3.	nɛsí bɔndɛ́.í ngíl.i	nɛsíˋbɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	Nesi cooked the okra.

4.	núm.u.íná nikɛ̌.í ndew.ɛ̌	núm.u.ínâ`nikɛ̌.îlew.ɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	That person beat the cow.
5.	hiîndo.í pɛ́l.ɛ.í ngéya	hiîndo.î`pɛ́l.ɛ.îyéyan.ì`l.ɔ́	The man bought the house.
6.	nyâpo-wovɛ.í sɛ́lɛ.í mɛ̌	nyâpo-wovɛ.î`sɛ́lɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	The old woman ate the banana.
7.	tɔmí ngúl.i.í pɔ́	tɔmí`ngúl.i.îwɔ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	Tommy felled the tree.
8.	nɛsí fɛɛ̌.í fénda	nɛsí`fɛɛ̌.îvéndan.ì`l.ɔ́	Nesi filled the pot.
9.	nyahɛ̂.í mbɛɛ̌.í fúka	nyahɛ̂.î`mbɛɛ̌.îvúkan.ì`l.ɔ́	The wife ground the rice.
10.	kúgbɛ.í gboji mɛ̌	kúgbɛ.î`gbojimɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	The warrior ate a plum.

Drill XII. Combine these plural noun subjects and noun objects with tǐ`.

1.	ndó.îsià ngáku.îsià kpɛ́	ndó.îsiàtǐ`ngáku.îsiàgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	The children chased the crabs.
2.	hiîndo.îsià kûli.í toŏ	hiîndo.îsiàtǐ`kûli.îloŏn.ì`l.ɔ́	The men built the shed.
3.	nyangbɛ̌.îsià hagbɛ̌.îsià mɛ̌	nyangbɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`hagbɛ̌.îsiàmɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	The foxes ate the rabbits.
4.	njal.ɛ̌.îsià nyangbɛ̌.îsià mɛ̌	njal.ɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`nyagbɛ̌.îsiàmɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	The lions ate the foxes.
5.	hiîndo.îsià njal.ɛ̌.îsià kpɛ́	hiîndo.îsiàtǐ`njal.ɛ̌.îsiàgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	The men chased the lions.
6.	kúgbɛ.îsià ndikpɛ̌.îsià pilî	kúgbɛ.îsiàtǐ`ndikpɛ̌.îsiàwilîn.ì`l.ɔ́	The heroes shot the arrows.

7.	nyahɛ̂.îsià mbɛɛ̌.í ngíl.i	nyahɛ̂.îsiàtǐ`mbɛɛ̌.îyíl.in.ì`l.ɔ́	The women cooked the rice.
8.	nyâpo.îsià sɛ́l.ɛ.îsià mɛ̌	nyâpo.îsiàtǐ`sɛ́l.ɛ.îsiàmɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	The women ate the bananas.
9.	hiîndo.îsià ndíle.í paǎ	hiîndo.îsiàtǐ`ndíle.îwaǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	The men killed the python.
10.	núm.u.ínâsià ndíle-hua mɛ̌	núm.u.ínâsiàtǐ`ndíle-huamɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	Those people ate python meat.

Drill XIII. Make simple past form sentences from the following singular noun subjects and pronoun objects. The past tense marker is .ì.

1.	nyahɛ̂.í tǐ hɔ́l.ɔ	nyahɛ̂.î.ìtǐhɔ́l.ɔn.ì`l.ɔ́	The woman sewed them.
2.	tɔmí tǐ paǎ	tɔmí.ìtǐwaǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	Tommy killed them.
3.	nɛsí mǔ fawɔ̂l.i	nɛsí.ìmǔvawɔ̂l.in.ì`l.ɔ́	Nesi disturbed us.
4.	músa tǐ kpatɛ̂	músa.ìtǐgbatɛ̂n.ì`l.ɔ́	Musa repaired them.
5.	tɔmí nyá ndew.ě	tɔmí.ìnyálèw.ěn.ì`l.ɔ́	Tommy beat me.
6.	nɛsí ø hɔ́l.ɔ	nɛsí.ì`hɔ́l.ɔn.ì`l.ɔ́	Nesi sewed it.
7.	músa bí muâ	músa.ìbímùân.ì`l.ɔ́	Musa bathed you.
8.	tɔmí tǐ kulǎ	tɔmí.ìtǐgulǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	Tommy dropped them.
9.	hiîndo.í mǔ kpɛ́	hiîndo.î.ìmǔgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	The man chased us.

10.	kúgbɛ.í bí nɛmû	kúgbɛ.î.ìbínɛ̀mûn.ì`l.ɔ́	The warrior wounded you.

Drill XIV. Combine as above,(XIII),but use neither ` nor .ì for the past tense marker. (A ` may indicate a non-human third person singular object). Remember that there is no tonal change (.í to .î) before pronouns.

1.	tɔmí 0 pɔ́	tɔmí`wɔ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	Tommy felled it.
2.	músa nyá kpɛ́	músanyágbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	Musa chased me.
3.	kpanâ bí kpɛ́	kpanâbígbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	Kpana chased you.
4.	músa tǐ kpɛ́	músatǐgbɛ́n.ì`I.ɔ́	Musa chased them.
5.	ndopô.í ngǐ fogbâ	ndopô.íngǐvogbân.ì`l.ɔ́	The boy flogged him.
6.	kênɛ.í tǐ kpatɛ̂	kênɛ.ítǐgbatɛ̂n.ì`l.ɔ́	The man repaired them.
7.	nyahɛ̂.í ngǐ muâ	nyahɛ̂.íngǐmuân.ì`l.ɔ́	The woman washed him.
8.	mahɛ̌.í 0 paǎ	mahɛ̌.î`paǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	The chief killed it.
9.	njé.í tǐ kpɛ́	njé.ítǐgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	The goat chased them.
10.	pu-mɔ.í mǔ kâva	pu-mɔ.ímǔgâvan.ì`l.ɔ́	The Englishman cheated us.

Drill XV. Make past tense, simple past form sentences from the following noun subjects and pronoun objects. The past tense marker is evident only in the form tí, previously explained.

1.	ndó.îsià ngǐ kpɛ́	ndó.îsiàtíngǐgbɛ́n.ì`1.ɔ́	The children chased him.
2.	kênɛ.îsià 0 toǒ	kênɛ.îsiàtí`toǒn.ì`1.ɔ́	The men built it.
3.	ndopô.îsià tǐ fénda	ndopô.îsiàtítǐvéndan.ì`1.ɔ́	The boys filled it.
4.	ndó.îsià 0 kú	ndó.îsiàtí`kún.ì`1.ɔ́	The children smelled it.
5.	njé.îsià 0 mɛ̌	njé.îsiàtí`mɛ̌n.ì`1.ɔ́	The goats ate it.
6.	nyapô.îsià nyá ndew.ě	nyapô.îsiàtínyálèw.ěn.ì`1.ɔ́	The women beat me.
7.	kênɛ.îsià tǐ kpatɛ̂	kênɛ.îsiàtítǐgbatɛ̂n.ì`1.ɔ́	The men repaired them.
8.	nyangbě.îsià 0 kpuǎ	nyangbě.îsiàtí`kpuǎn.ì`1.ɔ́	The foxes pulled it out.
9.	kúgbɛ.îsià ngǐ nɛmû	kúgbɛ.îsiàtíngǐnɛmûn.ì`1.ɔ́	The warriors injured him.
10.	nyahɛ̂.îsià nyá ndew.ě	nyahɛ̂.îsiàtínyálèw.ěn.ì`1.ɔ́	The wives beat me.

(Tests 62 and 63)

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

THE FUTURE TENSE AFFIRMATIVE

The pronouns used with the future tense are the prime pronouns plus the future marker .à. The vowels of the prime pronouns change to a and the future marker, .a, (but not the `), is deleted after all pronouns except the third person singular which is not indicated in the transcription.

ngá`	I will	mǎ`	we will
bá`	you will	wǎ`	you will
(ø).à	he will	tǎ`	they will

When the subject of a sentence is a noun, .à always follows the noun if the subject is singular and tǎ` follows the noun if the subject is plural. In most short, simple sentences, the form `l.ɔ́ follows the verb.

Drill I. Form future tense sentences with these pronouns and intransitive verbs. Remember that the future tense also indicates habitual action even though the English translation is in the future tense.

1.	ngí ndǐ	ngá`lǐ`l.ɔ́	I will go.
2.	bí ndǐ	bá`lǐ`l.ɔ́	You will go.
3.	ø ndǐ	.àlǐ`l.ɔ́	He will go.
4.	mǔ ndǐ	mǎ`lǐ`l.ɔ́	We will go.
5.	wǔ ndǐ	wǎ`lǐ`l.ɔ́	You (pl.) will go.
6.	tǐ ndǐ	tǎ`lǐ`l.ɔ́	They will go.
7.	ø haǎ	.àhaǎ`l.ɔ́	He will die.
8.	bí ngóva	bá`wóva`l.ɔ́	You will age.
9.	ø hitǐ	.àhitǐ`l.ɔ́	It will mature.
10.	ø mbé	.àbé`l.ɔ́	It will dry.

11.	ngí kulǎ	ngá`gulǎ`l.ɔ́	I will fall.
12.	ø kpandǐ	.àgbandǐ`l.ɔ́	It will heat up.
13.	ø ndúla	.àlúla`l.ɔ́	It will rot.
14.	tǐ fisǎ	tǎ`fisǎ`l.ɔ́	They will improve.
15.	mǔ kíl.i	mǎ`gíl.i`l.ɔ́	We will think.
16.	ø kpɔl.ǔ	.àgbɔl.ǔ`l.ɔ́	It will ripen.
17.	tǐ haǎ	tǎ`haǎ`l.ɔ́	They will die.
18.	bí pǎ	bá`wǎ`l.ɔ́	You will come.
19.	ø ngejě	.àyejě`l.ɔ́	It will become stale.
20.	ø kol.ě	.àgol.ě`l.ɔ́	It will whiten.
21.	ø minǐ	.àminǐ`l.ɔ́	It will become heavy.
22.	ø togbǒ	.àlogbǒ`l.ɔ́	It will wither.
23.	ø fále	.àvále`l.ɔ́	It will sprout.
24.	mǔ nyámu	mǎ`nyámu`l.ɔ́	We will become bad.

Drill II. Form future tense sentences with the following noun subjects and intransitive verbs. The future marker .à is always used.

1.	bɔndɛ́.í ngejě	bɔndɛ́.î.àyejě`l.ɔ́	The okra will become stale.
2.	núm.u.íná pǎ	núm.u.ínâ.àwǎ`l.ɔ́	That person will come.
3.	njal.ɛ̌.í haǎ	njal.ɛ̌.î.àhaǎ`l.ɔ́	The leopard will die.
4.	hótɛ.í kíl.i	hótɛ.î.àgíl.i`l.ɔ́	The stranger will think.

5.	nyahɛ̂.í fisǎ	nyahɛ̂.î.àfisǎ`l.ɔ́	The wife will improve.
6.	njowǒ.í ndúla	njowǒ.î.àlúla`l.ɔ́	The potato will rot.
7.	kaŋá.á minǐ	kaŋá.â.àminǐ`l.ɔ́	The box will become heavy.
8.	ndomɛ̌.í kol.ě	ndomɛ̌.î.àgol.ě`l.ɔ́	The shirt will whiten.
9.	mbɛɛ̌.í fále	mbɛɛ̌.î.àvále`l.ɔ́	The rice will sprout.

Drill III. Form future tense sentences from the following plural nouns and intransitive verbs. The future marker is tǎ`.

1.	ngúl.i.îsià togbǒ	ngúl.i.îsiàtǎ`logbǒ`l.ɔ́	The trees will wither.
2.	sɛ́lɛ.îsià hitǐ	sɛ́lɛ.îsiàtǎ`hitǐ`l.ɔ́	The bananas will mature.
3.	kênɛ.îsià pǎ	kênɛ.îsiàtǎ`wǎ`l.ɔ́	The men will come.
4.	ndó.îsià ndǐ	ndó.îsiàtǎ`lǐ`l.ɔ́	The children will go.
5.	nyâpo.îsià ngóva	nyâpo.îsiàtǎ`wóva`l.ɔ́	The women will age.
6.	ndáw.ɛ.îsià mbé	ndáw.ɛ.îsiàtǎ`bé`l.ɔ́	The leaves will dry.
7.	pɛ́l.ɛ.îsià kulǎ	pɛ́l.ɛ.îsiàtǎ`gulǎ`l.ɔ́	The houses will fall.
8.	tangɛ̌.îsià kpakpǎ	tangɛ̌.îsiàtǎ`gbakpǎ`l.ɔ́	The cassavas will get woody.
9.	kulɛ̌.îsià mbé	kulɛ̌.îsiàtǎ`bé`l.ɔ́	The dresses will dry.
10.	gboji.îsià ndúla	gboji.îsiàtǎ`lúla`l.ɔ́	The plums will rot.

Drill IV. Form future tense sentences from these pronoun subjects and objects. The ` (remnant of .à) is deleted, tá, má and wá are the plural subjects.

1.	ngí bí mbô	ngábíbô`l.ɔ́	I will shoot at you.

2.	0 nyá téw.e	.ànyáléw.e`l.ɔ́	He will cut me.
3.	tǐ mǔ paǎ	támǔwaǎ`l.ɔ́	They will kill us.
4.	bí tǐ ngéya	bátǐyéya`l.ɔ́	You will buy them.
5.	0 ngǐ muâ	.àngǐmuâ`l.ɔ́	She will bathe him.
6.	mǔ tǐ kpatɛ̂	mátǐgbatɛ̂`l.ɔ́	We will repair them.
7.	tǐ bí kâva	tábígâva`l.ɔ́	They will cheat you.
8.	ngí bí ndew.ě	ngábílèw.ě`l.ɔ́	I will beat you.
9.	bí nyá kpɛ́	bányágbɛ́`l.ɔ́	You will chase me.
10.	ngí tǐ kâva	ngátǐgâva`l.ɔ́	I will cheat them.
11.	mǔ tǐ paǎ	mátǐwaǎ`l.ɔ́	We will kill them.
12.	wǔ tǐ ngéya	wátǐyéya`l.ɔ́	You (pl.) will buy them.
13.	tǐ ngǐ muâ	tángǐmuâ`l.ɔ́	They will bathe him.
14.	tǐ 0 mbô	tá`mbô`l.ɔ́	They will shoot at it.
15.	mǔ 0 téw.e	má`téw.e`l.ɔ́	We will cut it.

16.	tǐ 0 paǎ	tá`paǎ`l.ɔ́	They will kill it.
17.	wǔ 0 ngéya	wá`ngéya`l.ɔ́	You (pl.) will buy it.
18.	tǐ bí mbô	tábíbô`l.ɔ́	They will shoot at you.
19.	tǐ 0 ndew.ě	tá`ndew.ě`l.ɔ́	They will beat it.
20.	mǔ 0 kpatɛ̂	má`kpatɛ̂`l.ɔ́	We will fix it.

<u>Drill V.</u> Make future tense sentences from the following pronoun subjects and noun objects. The ` is not deleted.

1.	tǐ bɛɛ́si-huɛ.í mɛ̌	tǎ`bɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌.`l.ɔ́	They will eat the pork.
2.	mǔ gboji.îsià ngéya	mǎ`gboji.îsiàyéya`l.ɔ́	We will buy the plums.
3.	0 njé.íná paǎ	.ànjé.ínâwaǎ`l.ɔ́	He will kill that goat.
4.	mǔ sámbɛ.íjí fénda	mǎ`sámbɛ.íjîvénda`l.ɔ́	We will fill this basket.
5.	tǐ pɛ́l.ɛ.î toǒ	tǎ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒ`l.ɔ́	They will build the house.
6.	ngí sâlo kɔ̂l.i	ngá`sâlogɔ̂l.i`l.ɔ́	I will pick an orange.
7.	ngí njɛɛ̌.í téw.e	ngá`njɛɛ̌.îléw.e`l.ɔ́	I will cross the river.
8.	0 nyɔɔ̌.í kpɛ́nyɛ	.ànyɔɔ̌.îgbɛ́nyɛ`l.ɔ́	She will granulate the corn.

9. mǔ
ngúl.i.íná
pɔ́ mǎˋngúl.i.ínâwɔ́ˋl.ɔ́ We will fell that tree.

10. bí
nikɛ̌.í
fogbâ báˋnikɛ̌.îvogbâˋl.ɔ́ You will whip the cow.

Drill VI. Form future tense sentences with the following noun subjects and objects. The future marker is .à; it is never deleted.

1. núm.u.íná
nyahɛ̂.í
fawɔ̂l.i núm.u.íná.ànyahɛ̂.îvawɔ̂l.iˋl.ɔ́
That person will disturb the wife.

2. kɛ̂nɛ.í
hótɛ.í
kâva kɛ̂nɛ.î.àhótɛ.îgâvaˋl.ɔ́
The man will cheat the guest.

3. kúgbɛ.íná
ndikpɛ̌.í
mbô kúgbɛ.ínâ.àndikpɛ̌.îbôˋl.ɔ́
The warrior will shoot the arrow.

4. hiîndo.í
ngǐ-nyahɛ.í
fɔnî hiîndo.î.àngǐ-nyahɛ.îvɔnîˋl.ɔ́
The man will pinch his wife.

5. kamɔ́.í
bûku.í
kaâ kamɔ́.î.àbûku.îgaâˋl.ɔ́
The teacher will read the book.

6. hiîndo.í
ndopô.í
pawa hiîndo.î.àndopô.îpawaˋl.ɔ́
The man will pay the boy.

7. músa
gbɛhɛ́.í
kpatɛ̂ músa.àgbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂ˋl.ɔ́
Musa will repair the stool.

8. ngî.lɛ.í
hagbě.í
nɛmû ngî.lɛ.î.àhagbě.înɛmûˋl.ɔ́
The dog will hurt the rabbit.

9. nyâpo.íná
kulɛ̌.í
hɔ́l.ɔ nyâpo.ínâ.àkulɛ̌.îhɔ́l.ɔˋl.ɔ́
That woman will sew the dress.

10. nyahɛ̂.í
sámbɛ.î
fénda nyahɛ̂.î.àsámbɛ.îvéndaˋl.ɔ́
The wife will fill the basket.

Drill VII. Combine these nouns and verbs as above (Drill VI), but the future is represented by tǎ`.

1. ndó.îsià
nyínɛ.í
paǎ
ndó.îsiàtǎ`nyínɛ.îwaǎ`l.ɔ́
The children will kill the rat.

2. kênɛ.îsià
bafa
toǒ
kênɛ.îsiàtǎ`bafaloǒ`l.ɔ́
The men will build a hut.

3. ngî.lɛ.îsià
nyínɛ.îsià
mɛ̌
ngî.lɛ.îsiàtǎ`nyínɛ.îsiàmɛ̌`l.ɔ́
The dogs will eat the rats.

4. hiîndo.îsià
ndɛndɛ̌
kpatɛ̂
hiîndo.îsiàtǎ`ndɛndɛ̌gbatɛ̂`l.ɔ́
The men will make a boat.

5. kênɛ.îsià
njalɛ̌.í
kpɛ́
kênɛ.îsiàtǎ`njalɛ̌.îgbɛ́`l.ɔ́
The men will chase the lion.

6. kênɛ.îsià
njal.ǎ-gɔlɔ-yal.ɛ.í
kpatɛ̂
kênɛ.îsiàtǎ`njal.ǎ-gɔlɔ-yalɛ.îgbatɛ̂`l.ɔ́
The men will make a lion skin rug.

7. nyâpo-wovɛ.îsià
beté.í
ngíl.i
nyâpo-wovɛ.îsiàtǎ`beté.îyíl.i`l.ɔ́
The old woman will cook the sauce.

8. ndopô.îsià
ndíle.í
paǎ
ndopô.îsiàtǎ`ndíle.îwaǎ`l.ɔ́
The boys will kill the python.

9. ngáku.ínâsià
ndó.íná
nɛmû
ngaku.ínâsiàtǎ`ndó.ínânɛmû`l.ɔ́
Those crabs will hurt that child.

10. núm.u.ínâsià
ngáku.ínâsià
mɛ̌
núm.u.ínâsiàtǎ`ngáku.ínâsiàmɛ̌`l.ɔ́
Those people will eat those crabs.

Drill VIII. Form future tense sentences with the following noun subjects and pronoun objects. The future marker .à is not to be omitted.

1. ngolɛ̌.î
ngǐ
kpɛ́
ngolɛ̌.î.àngǐgbɛ́`l.ɔ́
The chimp will chase him.

2. nyánj̀é
tǐ
kɔlɛ̌
nyáńjé.àtǐgɔlɛ̌`l.ɔ́
My mother will divide them.

3. nyahɛ̂.í
0
kú
nyahɛ̂.î.à`kú`l.ɔ́
The wife will smell it (food).

4. hiîndo.í
0
fâl.i
hiîndo.î.à`fâl.i`l.ɔ́
The man will sow it.

5. ndó.í
tǐ
kɔ̂l.i
ndó.î.àtǐgɔ̂l.i`l.ɔ́
The child will pick it.

6. nyahɛ̂.í
ngǐ
muâ
nyahɛ̂.î.àngǐmuâ`l.ɔ́
The wife will bathe him.

7. kênɛ.í
ngǐ
ndew.ě
kênɛ.î.àngǐlew.ě`l.ɔ́
The man will beat him.

8. músa
tǐ
ngéya
músa.àtǐyéya`l.ɔ́
Musa will buy them.

9. tɔmí
0
kpatɛ̂
tɔmí.à`kpatɛ̂`l.ɔ́
Tommy will fix it.

10. nɛsí
tǐ
hɔ́l.ɔ
nɛsí.àtǐhɔ́l.ɔ`l.ɔ́
Nesi will sew them.

Drill IX. Make the following plural nouns and pronoun objects into future tense sentences. The future marker is represented by tá (from tǎ` as previously explained).

1. hiîndo.îsià
tǐ
téw.e
hiîndo.îsiàtátǐléw.e`l.ɔ́
The men will cut them.

2. nyâpo.îsià
0
kpɛ́nyɛ
nyâpo.îsiàtá`kpɛ́nyɛ`l.ɔ́
The women will granulate it.

3. njal.ɛ̌.îsià
mǔ
paǎ
njal.ɛ̌.îsiàtámǔwaǎ` l.ɔ́
The lions will kill us.

4. kúgbɛ.ínâsià
wǔ
mbô
kúgbɛ.ínâsiàtáwǔbô` l.ɔ́
Those warriors will shoot at you (pl.).

5. kênɛ.îsià
bí
ndew.ě
kênɛ.îsiàtábílèw.ě` l.ɔ́
The men will beat you.

6. ngáku.íjîsià
bí
nɛmû
ngáku.íjîsiàtábínɛ̀mû` l.ɔ́
These crabs will hurt you.

7. bɛɛ́si.îsià
0
mɛ̌
bɛɛ́si.îsiàtá`mɛ̌` l.ɔ́
The pigs will eat it.

8. ndíle.ísià
bí
paǎ
ndíle.îsiàtábíwàǎ` l.ɔ́
The pythons will kill you.

9. ngî.lɛ.îsià
tǐ
kpɛ́
ngî.lɛ.îsiàtátǐgbɛ́` l.ɔ́
The dogs will chase them.

10. nyahɛ̂.îsià
tǐ
kpuǎ
nyahɛ̂.îsiàtátǐgbuǎ` l.ɔ́
The women will pull them out.

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

NEGATIVES

The negative forms offer much less difficulty in general than do the affirmative forms. As with ngɔ̀ sentences the prime of negation is .ì. The negative of the Present and Past tense is identical. The verbal formation of each is what is distinctive. The negative .ì added to the future has an entirely different effect. The negative .ì is never deleted, eliminating many of the problems found in the affirmative.

The negative markers for Present and Past nouns and pronouns are:

Noun Subjects	Pronoun Subjects
Singular: .ì	ngí.ì
Plural: tǐ.ì	bí.ì
	∅.ì
	mǔ.ì or mǔ.ù*
	wǔ.ì or wǔ.ù
	tǐ.ì

The negative marker for the Future tense is .ɛ̀.

Noun Subjects	Pronoun Subjects
Singular: .ɛ̀	ngɛ́.ɛ̀
Plural: tɛ̌.ɛ̀	bɛ́.ɛ̀
	∅.ɛ̀
	mǔ.ɛ̀ or mɛ̌.ɛ̀
	wǔ.ɛ̀ or wɛ̌.ɛ̀
	tɛ̌.ɛ̀

Verbal Suffixes in the Negative

L.ɔ́, the emphatic affirmative form, does not occur in the negative. In present time sentences, the ma or mà on the verb is unchanged. In past tense, simple past and perfect form, the form n.ì is suffixed to the verb with the following tonal consequences.

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*The forms mǔ.ù and wǔ.ù are very common and used very often on the tapes that accompany this course. Mǔ.ì and wǔ.ì are written here whether or not there is vowel assimilation. The tones (‾ _) from forms like mǔ.ì often become (‾ ‾) before high pitch. Listen for these things in the tapes.

Intransitive verbs which do not contain the tonal source mark ^, which have the suffix n.ì, delete all other tonal source marks and become low. The n of n.ì is often dropped but it is written in this transcription.

E.g.

súsun.i	(‾ ‾ ‾)	did deepen
sùsun.ì	(_ _ _)	did not deepen
lǐn.i	(_ ‾)	did go
lìn.ì	(_ _)	did not go
logbǒn.i	(_ _ ‾)	did wither
lògbon.ì	(_ _ _)	did not wither

(This only happens with intransitive verbs and only to those not containing a ^ mark.)

The following set of drills directs the student to make negative sentences from affirmative ones. This is not, of course, a typical conversational task in any language. Its purpose here is to further drill the student in the formation of negative and affirmative sentence structure and to give added practice in manipulating the peculiarities of these sentence types.

Drill I. The following intransitive verbs are given in the simple past form. Change them into the past negative.

1. hɛ́l.ɛn.i`l.ɔ́	hɛ̀l.ɛn.ì did not squat
2. hitɛ̂n.i`l.ɔ́	hitɛ̂n.ì did not come down
3. gɔndîn.i`l.ɔ́	gɔndîn.ì did not snore
4. gbâw.on.i`l.ɔ́	gbâw.on.ì did not howl
5. gbínin.i`l.ɔ́	gbìnin.ì did not coil
6. mɛl.ǐn.i`l.ɔ́	mɛ̀l.in.ì did not graze

7.	jɛ̂l.in.i`l.ɔ́	jɛ̂l.in.ì did not pray
8.	lisôn.i`l.ɔ́	lisɔ̂n.ì did not sneeze
9.	lakpân.i`l.ɔ́	lakpân.ì did not mature
10.	logbŏn.i`l.ɔ́	lògbon.ì did not wither
11.	lúlan.i`l.ɔ́	lùlan.ì did not rot
12.	nyámun.i`l.ɔ́	nyàmun.ì did not become bad
13.	válen.i`l.ɔ́	vàlen.ì did not sprout
14.	wóvan.i`l.ɔ́	wòvan.ì did not age
15.	haăn.i`l.ɔ́	hàan.ì did not die
16.	wăn.i`l.ɔ́	wàn.ì did not come
17.	gíl.in.i`l.ɔ́	gìl.in.ì did not think
18.	bén.i`l.ɔ́	bèn.ì did not dry
19.	minǐn.i`l.ɔ́	mìnin.ì did become heavy
20.	lɛl.ǐn.i`l.ɔ́	lɛ̀l.in.ì did not blacken

<u>**Drill II.**</u> Form past tense negative sentences from the following.

1.	0 ngóva	.ìwòvan.ì He did not age.

2.	tǐ̍ haǎ	tǐ̍.ìhàan.ì They did not die.
3.	mǔ ndǐ̍	mǔ.ìlìn.ì We did not go.
4.	∅ kpíni	.ìgbìnin.ì It did not coil.
5.	bí kíl.i	bí.ìgìl.in.ì You did not think.
6.	bí ∅ téw.e	bí.ì`léw.en.ì You did not cut it.
7.	mǔ ∅ ngéya	mǔ.ì`ngéyan.ì We did not buy it.
8.	tǐ̍ ∅ ngíl.i	tǐ̍.ì`ngíl.in.ì They did not cook it.
9.	ngí ngǐ̍ fɔnî	ngí.ìngǐ̍vɔnîn.ì I did not pinch her.
10.	ngí kulǎ	ngí.ìgùlan.ì I did not fall.
11.	∅ ∅ hɔ́l.ɔ	.ì`hɔ́l.ɔn.ì She did not see it.
12.	tǐ̍ ŋɔ̂na	tǐ̍.ìŋɔ̂nan.ì They did not get bitter.

13.	bí hitê	bí.ìhitên.ì You did not come down.
14.	músa kíl.i	músa.ìgìl.in.ì Musa did not think.
15.	kpanâ fisǎ	kpanâ.ìfìsan.ì Kpana did not get better
16.	mbɛɛ̌.í ndúla	mbɛɛ̌.î.ìlùlan.ì The rice did not rot.
17.	ngî.lɛ.í kpâw.o	ngî.lɛ.î.ìgbâwon.ì The dog did not howl.
18.	tɔmí sêl.i	tɔmí.ìjêl.in.ì Tommy did not pray.
19.	nɛsí pǎ	nɛsí.ìwàn.ì Nesi did not come.
20.	fakâl.i.í hitǐ	fakâl.i.î.ìhìtin.ì The pawpaw did not ripen.
21.	ndomɛ̌.îsià kol.ě	ndomɛ̌.îsiàtǐ.ìgòl.en.ì The shirts did not become white.
22.	ø ø paǎ	.ì`paǎn.ì He did not kill it.
23.	mǔ ø kpɛ́	mǔ.ì`kpɛ́n.ì We did not chase it.
24.	tǐ ø fâl.i	tǐ.ì`fâl.in.ì They did not sow it.

25. ngí
∅
kú
ngí.ì`kún.ì
I did not smell it.

26. ngí
bí
kâva
ngí.ìbígâvan.ì
I did not cheat you.

27. mǔ
tǐ
kpatɛ̂
mǔ.ìtǐgbatɛ̂n.ì
We did not repair them.

28. ngí
ngǐ
téw.e
ngí.ìngǐléw.en.ì
I did not cut him.

29. ∅
nyá
mbô
.ìnyábôn.ì
He did not shoot at me.

30. ngí
bí
fɔnî
ngí.ìbívɔ̀nîn.ì
I did not pinch you.

31. tǐ
∅
kaâ
tǐ.ì`kaân.ì
They did not read it.

32. tǐ
kalǐ-huϵ.í
mɛ̌
tǐ.ìkalǐ-huϵ.îmɛ̌n.ì
They did not eat the snake meat.

33. mǔ
sámbϵ.íná
fénda
mǔ.ìsámbϵ.ínâvéndan.ì
We did not fill that basket.

34. ngí
hagbě.í
kpɛ́
ngí.ìhagbě.îgbɛ́n.ì
I did not chase the rabbit.

35. bí
ϕ
ngíl.i
bí.ì`ngíl.in.ì
You did not cook it.

36. ngí
bí
kâva
ngí.ìbígâvan.ì
I did not cheat you.

37. bí
nyá
fogbâ
bí.ìnyávògbân.ì
You did not whip me.

38. hagbě.í
ngî.lɛ.í
kpɛ́
hagbě.î.ìngî.lɛ.îgbɛ́n.ì
The rabbit did not chase the dog.

39. nyâpo.í
bɔndɛ́.í
ngíl.i
nyâpo.î.ìbɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ì
The woman did not cook the okra.

40. kênɛ.í
kal.ǐ.í
nɛmû
kênɛ.î.ìkal.ǐ.înɛmûn.ì
The man did not wound the snake.

41. ndó.îsià
ngáku.í
kpɛ́
ndó.îsiàtǐ.ìngáku.îgbɛ́n.ì
The children did not chase the crab.

42. hagbě.îsià
njal.ɛ̌.îsià
kpɛ́
hagbě.îsiàtǐ.ìngalɛ̌.îsiàgbɛ́n.ì
The rabbits did not chase the leopards.

43. nyahɛ̂.îsià
ndikpɛ̌.îsià
mbô
nyahɛ̂.îsiàtǐ.ìndikpɛ̌.îsiàbôn.ì
The wives did not shoot the arrows.

44. hiîndo.îsià
mbɛɛ̌.í
ngíl.i
hiîngo.îsiàtǐ.ìmbɛɛ̌.îyíl.in.ì
The men did not cook the rice.

45. ndíle.îsià
ndó.îsià
paǎ
ndíle.îsiàtǐ.ìndó.îsiàwaǎn.ì
The pythons did not kill the children.

46. nɛsí
mǔ
fawə̂l.i
nɛsí.ìmǔvawə̂l.in.ì
Nesi did not disturb us.

47. tɔmí
tǐ
kpatɛ̂
tɔmí.ìtǐgbatɛ̂n.ì
Tommy did not repair them.

48. músa
ngǐ
muâ
músa.ìngǐmuân.ì
Musa did not bathe him.

49. kúgbɛ.í
bí
nɛmû
kúgbɛ.î.ìbínɛ̀mûn.ì
The warrior did not hurt you.

50. tɔmí
tǐ
kulǎ
tɔmí.ìtǐgulǎn.ì
Tommy did not drop them.

51. pu-mɔ.í
mǔ
kâva
pu-mɔ.î.ìmǔgâvan.ì
The Englishman did not cheat us.

52. kênɛ.îsià
ϕ
toǒ
kênɛ.îsiàtǐ.ì`toǒn.ì
The men did not build it.

53. ndopô.îsià
ϕ
fénda
ndopô.îsiàtǐ.ì`féndan.ì
The boys did not fill it.

54. nyahɛ̂.îsià
nyá
ndew.ě
nyahɛ̂.îsiàtǐ.ìnyálèw.ěn.ì
The wives did not beat me.

55.	njé.îsià ø mɛ̌	njé.îsiàtǐ.ì`mɛ̌nì The goats did not eat it.

<u>Drill III.</u> Form future tense negative sentences from the following.

1.	ø hitǐ	.ɛ̀hitǐ It will not nature.
2.	bí ngóva	bɛ́.ɛ̀wóva You will not age.
3.	ø haǎ	.ɛ̀haǎ He will not die.
4.	tǐ ndǐ	tɛ̌.ɛ̀lǐ They will not go.
5.	mǔ pǎ	mǔ.ɛ̀wǎ We will not come.
6.	wǔ kíl.i	wǔ.ɛ̀gíl.i You (pl.) will not think.
7.	ø togbǒ	.ɛ̀logbǒ It will not wither.
8.	ø ndúla	.ɛ̀lúla It will not rot.
9.	bí fisǎ	bɛ́.ɛ̀fisǎ You will not improve.
10.	ø mbé	.ɛ̀bé It will not dry.
11.	tǐ nyámu	tɛ̌.ɛ̀nyámu They will not become bad.

12. ∅
fále
.ɛ̀vále
It will not sprout.

13. tǐ
hitɛ̂
tɛ̌.ɛ̀hitɛ̂
They will not come down.

14. ngí
tisô
ngɛ́.ɛ̀lisô
I will not sneeze.

15. ∅
kpâw.o
.ɛ̀gbâw.o
It will not howl.

16. mbɛɛ̌.íná
ngejě
mbɛɛ̌.ínâ.ɛ̀yejě
That rice will not become stale.

17. njal.ɛ̌.íjí
haǎ
njal.ɛ̌.íjî.ɛ̀haǎ
This leopard will not die.

18. ndomɛ̌.íjí
kol.ě
ndomɛ̌.íjî.ɛ̀gol.ě
This shirt will not get white.

19. mbɛɛ̌.í
fále
mbɛɛ̌.î.ɛ̀vále
The rice will not sprout.

20. kulɛ̌.îsià
mbé
kulɛ̌.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀bé
The dresses will not dry.

21. ndó.îsià
pǎ
ndó.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀wǎ
The children will not come.

22. tangɛ̌.ínâsià
ndúla
tangɛ̌.ínâsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀lúla
Those cassavas will not rot.

23. ∅
bí
téw.e
.ɛ̀bíléw.e
It will not cut you.

24. ngí
bí
nɛmû
ngɛ́.ɛ̀bínɛ̀mû
I will not hurt you.

25. tǐ
tǐ
ngéya
tɛ̌.ɛ̀tíyéya
They will not buy them.

26. tǐ
bí
kâva
tɛ̌.ɛ̀bígâva
They will not cheat you.

27. mǔ
wǔ
nɛmû
mǔ.ɛ̀wǔnɛmû
We will not hurt you (pl.).

28. ngí
ø
kpatɛ̂
ngɛ́.ɛ̀`kpatɛ̂
I will not fix it.

29. tǐ
bɛɛ́si-huɛ.í
mɛ̌
tɛ̌.ɛ̀bɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌
They will not eat the pork.

30. wǔ
njɛɛ̌.í
téw.e
wǔ.ɛ̀njɛɛ̌.îléw.e
You (pl.) will not cross the river.

31. kênɛ.îsià
nyá
fawə̂l.i
kênɛ.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀nyávàwə̂l.i
The men will not disturb me.

32. kúgbɛ.ínâsià
ø
pé.e
kúgbɛ.ínâsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀`pé.e
The warriors will not do it.

33. ndó.îsià
bûku.îsià
kaâ
ndó.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀bûku.îsiàgaâ
The children will not read the books.

34. nyâpo.îsià
sámbɛ.í
fénda
nyâpo.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀sámbɛ.îvénda
The women will not fill the basket.

35. nyahɛ̂.îsià
kulɛ̌.îsià
hɔ́l.ɔ
nyahɛ̂.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀kulɛ̌.îsiàhɔ́l.ɔ
The women will not sew the dresses.

36. ngî.lɛ.îsià
ndó.í
nɛmû
ngî.lɛ.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀ndó.înɛmû
The dogs will not hurt the child.

37. hiîndo.îsià
ndopô.í
pawa
hiîndo.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀ndopô.îpawa
The men will not pay the boy.

38. nyangbě.îsià
nyínɛ.îsià
mɛ̌
nyangbě.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀nyínɛ.îsiàmɛ̌
The foxes will not eat the rats.

39. kênɛ.ínâsià
pɛ́l.ɛ
toǒ
kênɛ.ínâsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀pɛ́l.ɛlòǒ
Those men will not build a house.

40. ∅
∅
fâl.i
.ɛ̀`fâl.i
He will not sow it.

41. hinî.í
ngǐ
ndew.ě
hinî.î.ɛ̀ngǐlew.ě
The husband will not beat her.

42. hiîndo.îsià
mǔ
mbô
hiîndo.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀mǔbô
The men will not shoot at us.

43. bɛɛ́si.îsià
∅
mɛ̌
bɛɛ́si.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀`mɛ̌
The pigs will not eat it.

44.	ngɪ̂.lɛ.ɪ̂sià tɪ̌ kpɛ́	ngɪ̂.lɛ.ɪ̂siàtɛ̌.ɛ̀tɪ̌gbɛ́ The dogs will not chase them.
45.	nyahɛ̂.ɪ̂sià tɪ̌ kpuǎ	nyahɛ̂.ɪ̂siàtɛ̌.ɛ̀tɪ̌gbuǎ The women will not pull them out.

Drill IV. Change these simple past form affirmative sentences to negative sentences.

1.	tɪ̌`gbandɪ̌n.i`l.ɔ́	tɪ̌.ìgbàndin.ì They did not heat up.
2.	.ìhaǎn.i`l.ɔ́	.ìhàan.ì He did not die.
3.	tɪ̌`hitɪ̌n.i`l.ɔ́	tɪ̌.ìhìtin.ì They did not mature.
4.	bɪ́`gulǎn.i`l.ɔ́	bɪ́.ìgùlan.ì You did not fall.
5.	.ìŋɔ̂n.an.ì`l.ɔ́	.ìŋɔ̂n.an.ì It did not become bitter.
6.	.ìbén.i`l.ɔ́	.ìbèn.ì It did not dry.
7.	mǔ`gɪ́l.in.i`l.ɔ́	mǔ.ìgìl.in.ì We did not think.
8.	tɪ̌`lɛl.ɪ̌n.i`l.ɔ́	tɪ̌.ìlɛ̀l.in.ì They did not become black.
9.	.ìjúsun.i`l.ɔ́	.ìjùsun.ì It did not become deep.
10.	wǔ`lúman.i`l.ɔ́	wǔ.ìlùman.ì You (pl.) did not answer.
11.	ngɪ́`féndan.ì`l.ɔ́	ngɪ́.ì`féndan.ì I did not fill it.
12.	bɪ́`lɪ̌n.i`l.ɔ́	bɪ́.ìlìn.ì You did not go.

13.	.ì`paǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	.ì`paǎn.ì He did not kill it.
14.	.ìminǐn.i`l.ɔ́	.ìmìnin.ì It did not become heavy.
15.	mǔ`kpɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	mǔ.ì`kpɛ́n.ì We did not chase it.
16.	mǔ`hitɛ̂n.i`l.ɔ́	mǔ.ìhitɛ̂n.ì We did not come down.
17.	wǔ`toǒn.ì`l.ɔ́	wǔ.ì`toǒn.ì You (pl.) did not build it.
18.	bí`fisǎn.i`l.ɔ́	bí.ìfìsan.ì You did not improve.
19.	tǐ`gɔndîn.i`l.ɔ́	tǐ.ìgɔndîn.ì They did not snore.
20.	ngí`kún.ì`l.ɔ́	ngí.ì`kún.ì I did not smell it.
21.	tǐ`lakpân.i`l.ɔ́	tǐ.ìlakpân.ì They did not mature.
22.	mǔ`pawan.ì`l.ɔ́	mǔ.ì`pawan.ì We did not pay for it.
23.	músa.ìgíl.in.i`l.ɔ́	músa.ìgìl.in.ì Musa did not think.
24.	.ìgbínin.i`l.ɔ́	.ìgbìnin.ì It did not coil.
25.	bí`nɛmûn.ì`l.ɔ́	bí.ì`nɛmûn.ì You did not wound it.
26.	mǔ`jɛ̂l.in.i`l.ɔ́	mǔ.ìjɛ̂l.in.ì We did not pray.
27.	kpanâ.ìwóvan.i`l.ɔ́	kpanâ.ìwòvan.ì Kpana did not age.
28.	ngíbígâvan.ì`l.ɔ́	ngí.ìbígâvan.ì I did not cheat you.
29.	ngǐbígâvan.ì`l.ɔ́	.ìbígâvan.ì He did not cheat you.

30.	hagbě.ínâ.ìhaǎn.i`l.ɔ́	hagbě.ínâ.ìhàan.ì That rabbit did not die.
31.	mǔ`fogbân.ì`l.ɔ́	mǔ.ì`fogbân.ì We did not pinch it.
32.	mbɛɛ̌.î.ìválen.i`l.ɔ́	mbɛɛ̌.î.ìvàlen.ì The rice did not sprout.
33.	tímǔgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	tǐ.ìmǔgbɛ́n.ì They did not chase us.
34.	mǔ`kaân.ì`l.ɔ́	mǔ.ì`kaân.ì We did not read it.
35.	bítǐwaǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	bí.ìtǐwaǎn.ì You did not kill them.
36.	nɛsí.ìfisǎn.i`l.ɔ́	nɛsí.ìfìsan.ì Nesi did not get better.
37.	hinî.î.ìlǐn.i`l.ɔ́	hinî.î.ìlìn.ì The husband did not go.
38.	ngíngǐvɔnîn.ì`l.ɔ́	ngí.ìngǐvɔnîn.ì I did not pinch her.
39.	kal.ǐ.î.ìgbínin.i`l.ɔ́	kal.ǐ.î.ìgbìnin.ì The snake did not coil.
40.	músa.ìhɛ́l.ɛn.i`l.ɔ́	músa.ìhɛ̀l.ɛn.ì Musa did not stoop down.
41.	tǐ`njé-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́	tǐ.ìnjé-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì They did not eat the goat meat.
42.	ndopô.î.ìlisôn.i`l.ɔ́	ndopô.î.ìlisôn.ì The boy did not sneeze.
43.	ngí`sɛ́l.ɛ.îgulǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	ngí.ìsɛ́l.ɛ.îgulǎn.ì I did not drop the banana.
44.	bí`njɛɛ̌.ínâléw.en.ì`l.ɔ́	bí.ìnjɛɛ̌.ínâléw.en.ì You did not cross that river.
45.	.ìhigbɛ̌n.i`l.ɔ́	.ìhìgbɛn.ì He did not get sick.
46.	hagbě.ínâ.ìnyágbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	hagbě.ínâ.ìnyágbɛ́n.ì That rabbit did not chase you.

47.	mǔˋkaân.ìˋl.ɔ́	mǔ.ìˋkaân.ì We did not read it.
48.	hinî.î.ìbɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ìˋl.ɔ́	hinî.î.ìbɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ì The husband did not cook the okra.
49.	njowǒ.îˋválen.iˋl.ɔ́	njowǒ.î.ìvàlen.ì The potato did not sprout.
50.	nɛsíˋlǐn.iˋl.ɔ́	nɛsí.ìlìn.ì Nesi did not go.

Drill V. Change these perfect form sentences to past negative sentences.

1.	.ìgútung.a	.ìgùtun.ì It did not become short.
2.	bíˋtéw.eng.a	bí.ìˋtéw.en.ì You did not cut it.
3.	tǐˋlɛl.ǐng.a	tǐ.ìlɛ̀l.in.ì They did not become black.
4.	títǐwaǎng.a	tǐ.ìtǐwaǎn.ì They did not kill them.
5.	.ìhaǎng.a	.ìhàan.ì He did not die.
6.	ngíˋyá	ngí.ìlìn.ì I did not go.
7.	ngíbígâvang.a	ngí.ìbígâvan.ì I did not cheat you.
8.	núm.u.î.ìwǎng.a	númu.î.ìwàn.ì The person did not come.
9.	tɔmí.ìgulǎng.a	tɔmí.ìgùlan.ì Tommy has fallen.
10.	.ìfɛɛ̌.îvéndang.a	.ìfɛɛ̌.îvéndan.ì She did not fill the pot.
11.	nyâpo-wovɛ.îˋgulǎng.a	nyâpo-wovɛ.î.ìgùlan.ì The old woman did not fall.
12.	tǐˋnikǎ-huɛ.îmɛ̌ng.a	tǐ.ìnikǎ-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì They have not eaten the beef.

13.	ndó.îsiàtǐˋgíl.ing.a	ndó.îsiàtǐ.ìgìl.in.ì The children did not think.
14.	tɔmíˋwǎng.a	tɔmí.ìwàn.ì Tommy did not come.
15.	mbɛɛ̌.íjîˋlúlang.a	mbɛɛ̌.íjî.ìlùlan.ì This rice did not rot.

Drill VI. Change these present time affirmative sentences to negative sentences.

1.	tâ.áˋwǎma	.ìwǎma He is not going.
2.	tǐâ.áˋgíl.ima	tǐ.ìgíl.ima They are not thinking.
3.	mǔâ.áˋlǐma	mǔ.ìlǐma We are not going.
4.	nyáâ.áˋpundî.îwaǎmà	ngí.ìpundî.îwaǎmà I am not killing the mosquito.
5.	tǐâ.áˋbɔlɛ.îyéyamà	tǐ.ìbɔlɛ.îyéyamà They are not buying the hat.

Drill VII. Change these future tense affirmative sentences to negative sentences.

1.	núm.u.ínâ.àkênɛ.îvawɔ̂l.iˋl.ɔ́	núm.u.ínâ.ɛ̀kênɛ.îvawɔ̂l.i That person will not disturb the man.
2.	njowǒ.î.àlúlaˋl.ɔ́	njowǒ.î.ɛ̀lúla The potato will not rot.
3.	ngábíbôˋl.ɔ́	ngɛ́.ɛ̀bíbô I will not shoot at you.
4.	támǔwaǎˋl.ɔ́	tɛ̌.ɛ̀mǔwaǎ They will not kill us.
5.	báˋlǐˋl.ɔ́	bɛ́.ɛ̀lǐ You will not go.
6.	.àhaǎˋl.ɔ́	.ɛ̀haǎ He will not die.

7. nyâpo-wovɛ.îsiàtátǐgbuǎ`l.ɔ́ nyâpo-wovɛ.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀tǐgbuǎ
The old women will not pull them out.

8. .àbé`l.ɔ́ .ɛ̀bé
It will not dry.

9. .àgbɔl.ǔ`l.ɔ́ .ɛ̀gbɔl.ǔ
It will not ripen.

10. ngábílèw.ě`l.ɔ́ ngɛ́.ɛ̀bílèw.ě
I will not beat you.

11. hiîndo.î.àngǐ-nyahɛ.îvɔnî`l.ɔ́
hiîndo.î.ɛ̀ngǐ-nyahɛ.îvɔnî
The man will not pinch his wife.

12. kênɛ.îsiàtǎ`njalɛ̌.îgbɛ́`l.ɔ́ kênɛ.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀njalɛ̌.îgbɛ́
The men will not chase the leopard.

13. tɔmí.àwǎ`l.ɔ́ tɔmí.ɛ̀wǎ
Tommy will not come.

14. njal.ɛ̌.î.àhaǎ`l.ɔ́ njal.ɛ̌.î.ɛ̀haǎ
The leopard will not die.

15. kulɛ̌.îsiàtǎ`bé`l.ɔ́ kulɛ̌.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀bé
The dresses will not dry.

16. .àwóva`l.ɔ́ .ɛ̀wóva
She will not age.

17. wátǐgbatɛ̂`l.ɔ́ wɛ̌.ɛ̀tǐgbatɛ̂
You (pl.) will not repair them.

18. ngábílέw.e`l.ɔ́ ngɛ́.ɛ̀bílέw.e
I will not cut you.

19. hiîndo.îsiàtǎ`ndɛndɛ̌gbatɛ̂`l.ɔ́
hiîndo.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀ndɛndɛ̌gbatɛ̂
The men will not make a boat.

20. núm.u.ínâsiàtǎ`ngáku.îmɛ̌`l.ɔ́
núm.u.ínâsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀ngáku.îmɛ̌
Those people will not eat the crab.

21. ndó.î.à`fâl.i`l.ɔ́ ndó.î.ɛ̀`fâl.i
The child will not sow it.

22.	hinî.î.à`kú`l.ɔ́	hinî.î.ɛ̀`kú The husband will not smell it.
23.	tábígâva`l.ɔ́	tɛ̌.ɛ̀bígâva They will not cheat you.
24.	.àngǐmuâ`l.ɔ́	.ɛ̀ngǐmuâ She will not bathe him.
25.	nyâpo.ínâ.àkulɛ̌.îhɔ́l.ɔ`l.ɔ́	nyâpo.ínâ.ɛ̀kulɛ̌.îhɔ́l.ɔ That woman will not sew the dress.
26.	ndó.îsiàtǎ`sámbɛ.îvénda`l.ɔ́	ndó.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀sámbɛ.îvénda The children will not fill the basket.
27.	hiîndo.î.àndopô.îpawa`l.ɔ́	hiîndo.î.ɛ̀ndopô.îpawa The man will not pay the boy.
28.	ndó.î.àbûku.îgaâ`l.ɔ́	ndó.î.ɛ̀bûku.îgaâ The child will not read the book.
29.	.à`nɛmû`l.ɔ́	.ɛ̀`nɛmû He will not hurt it.
30.	tǎ`lǐ`l.ɔ́	tɛ́.ɛ̀lǐ They will not go.

Drill VIII. Change these past negative sentences to simple past affirmative sentences.

1.	tɔmí.ìwòvan.ì	tɔmí `wóvan.i`l.ɔ́ Tommy aged.
2.	tǐ.ì`kaân.ì	tǐ`kaân.ì`l.ɔ́ They read it.
3.	ngí.ìjɛ̂l.in.ì	ngí`jɛ̂l.ini`l.ɔ́ I prayed.
4.	tangɛ̌.î.ìvàlen.ì	tangɛ̌.î `válen.i`l.ɔ́ The cassava sprouted.
5.	mǔ.ìtǐgbɛ́n.ì	mútǐgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́ We chased them.
6.	mǔ.ì`téw.en.ì	mǔ`téw.en.ì`l.ɔ́ We cut it.

7.	nyangbě.î.ìhàan.ì	nyangbě.î ˋhaǎn.iˋl.ɔ́	The fox died.
8.	ngí.ìˋnɛmûn.ì	ngíˋnɛmûn.ìˋl.ɔ́	I wounded it.
9.	.ìgbìnin.ì	.ìgbínin.iˋl.ɔ́	It coiled.
10.	nɛsí.ìgìl.in.ì	nɛsí ˋgíl.in.iˋl.ɔ́	Nesi thought.
11.	mǔ.ìˋpawan.ì	mǔˋpawan.ìˋl.ɔ́	We paid for it.
12.	tǐ.ìhìtin.ì	tǐˋhitǐn.iˋl.ɔ́	They matured.
13.	ngí.ìˋkún.ì	ngíˋkún.ìˋl.ɔ́	I smelled it.
14.	tǐ.ìgɔndîn.ì	tǐˋgɔndîn.iˋl.ɔ́	They snored.
15.	mǔ.ìfìsan.ì	mǔˋfisǎn.iˋl.ɔ́	We improved.
16.	hinî.î.ìlisôn.ì	hinî.î ˋlisôn.iˋl.ɔ́	The husband sneezed.
17.	mǔ.ìnikǎ-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì	mǔˋnikǎ-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ìˋl.ɔ́	We ate the beef.
18.	kpanâ.ìhɛ̀l.ɛn.ì	kpanâ ˋhɛ́l.ɛniˋl.ɔ́	Kpana stooped down.
19.	ngeyɛ̌.î.ìgbìnin.ì	ngeyɛ̌.î ˋgbínin.iˋl.ɔ́	The rope coiled.
20.	.ìnyávɔ̀nîn.ì	.ìnyávɔ̀nîn.ìˋl.ɔ́	She pinched me.
21.	tɔmí.ìlìn.ì	tɔmí ˋlǐn.iˋl.ɔ́	Tommy went.
22.	músa.ìfìsan.ì	músa ˋfisǎn.iˋl.ɔ́	Musa got better.
23.	bí.ìtǐwaǎn.ì	bítǐwaǎn.ìˋl.ɔ́	You killed them.

24.	tǐ.ìhàan.ì	tǐ\`haǎn.i\`l.ɔ́ They died.
25.	tǐ.ìfìsan.ì	tǐ\`fisǎn.i\`l.ɔ́ They got better.
26.	hinî.î.ìfìsan.ì	hinî.î\`fisǎn.i\`l.ɔ́ The husband got better.
27.	ngî.lɛ.î.ìhagbě.îgbɛ́n.ì	ngî.lɛ.î\` ha gbe.îgbɛ́n.ì\`l.ɔ́ The dog chased the rabbit.
28.	ngí.ì\`féndan.ì	ngí\` féndan.ì\`l.ɔ́ I filled it.
29.	.ìŋɔ̂n.an.ì	.ìŋɔ̂n.an.i\`l.ɔ́ It got bitter
30.	mǔ.ìnyɔɔ̌.ivúkan.ì	mǔ\`nyɔɔ̌.îvúkan.ì\`l.ɔ́ We ground the corn.
31.	ndomɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ.ìgòl.en.ì	ndomɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ\`gol.ěn.i\`l.ɔ́ These shirts got clean.
32.	hagbě.íjî.ìnyágbɛ́n.ì	hagbě.íjínyágbɛ́n.ì\`l.ɔ́ This rabbit chased me.
33.	bí.ìlìn.ì	bí\`lǐn.i\`l.ɔ́ You went.
34.	hótɛ.î.ìbɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì	hótɛ.î \`bɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì\`l.ɔ́ The guest ate the pork.
35.	mahɛ̌.î.ìfìsan.ì	mahɛ̌.î \`fisǎn.i\`l.ɔ́ The chief got better
36.	músa.ìnyâ-jalo.îmɛ̌n.ì	músa.ìnyâ-jalo.îmɛ̌n.ì\`l.ɔ́ Musa ate my orange.
37.	.ìbèn.ì	.ìbén.i\`l.ɔ́ It dried out.
38.	tǐ.ì\`paǎn.ì	tǐ\`paǎn.ì\`l.ɔ́ They killed it.
39.	tangɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ.ìgbàkpan.ì	tangɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ\`gbakpǎn.i\`l.ɔ́ These cassavas became woody.
40.	tǐ.ìgɔndîn.ì	tǐ\`gɔndîn.i\`l.ɔ́ They snored.

41.	nɛsí.ìlìn.ì	nɛsí `lǐn.i`l.ɔ́ Nesi went.
42.	.ì`kún.ì	.ì`kún.ì`l.ɔ́ She smelled it.
43.	mǔ.ìgìl. n.ì	mǔ`gíl.in.i`l.ɔ́ We thought.
44.	kênɛ.î.ìhàan.ì	kênɛ.î `haǎn.i`l.ɔ́ The man died.
45.	tǐ.ìlɛ̀l.in.ì	tǐ`lɛl.ǐn.i`l.ɔ́ They became black.
46.	hiîndo.ínâ.ìnikɛ̌.îlew.ěn.ì	hiîndo.ínâ `nikɛ̌.îlew.ěn.ì`l.ɔ́ That man beat the cow.
47.	njowǒ.î.ìvàlen.ì	njowǒ.î`válen.i`l.ɔ́ The potato sprouted.
48.	nɛsí.ì`kaân.ì	nɛsí`kaân.ì`l.ɔ́ Nesi read it.
49.	kênɛ.îsiàtǐ.ìlìn.ì	kênɛ.îsiàtǐ`lǐn.i`l.ɔ́ The men came.
50.	tǐ.ì`toǒn.ì	tǐ`toǒn.ì`l.ɔ́ They built it.
51.	bí.ìgùlan.ì	bí`gulǎn.i`l.ɔ́ You fell.
52.	nyahɛ̂.î.ìbɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ì	nyahɛ̂.î `bɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ì`l.ɔ́ The wife cooked the okra.
53.	mǔ.ìjɛ̂l.in.ì	mǔ`jɛ̂l.in.i`l.ɔ́ We prayed.
54.	hiîndo.îsiàtǐ.ìndíle.îwaǎn.ì	hiîndo.îsiàtǐ`ndíle.îwaǎn.ì`l.ɔ́ The men killed the python.
55.	ngeyɛ̌.î.ìgbìnin.ì	ngeyɛ̌.î `gbínin.i`l.ɔ́ The rope coiled.
56.	mǔ.ìbɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì	mǔ`bɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́ We are the pork.
57.	tǐ.ìmúsanɛ̀mûn.ì	tǐ`músanɛ̀mûn.ì`l.ɔ́ They hurt Musa.

58.	.ìmìnin.ì	.ìminǐn.i`l.ɔ́	It got heavy.
59.	ngí.ìnɛsívɔ̀nîn.ì	ngí`nɛsívɔ̀nîn.ì`l.ɔ́	I pinched Nesi.
60.	tǐ.ìgbàndin.ì	tǐ`gbandǐn.i`l.ɔ́	They heated up.
61.	mǔ.ì`kpɛ́n.ì	mǔ`kpɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	We chased it.
62.	mǔ.ìhitɛ̂n.ì	mǔ`hitɛ̂n.i`l.ɔ́	We came down.
63.	kaŋá.â.ìmìnin.ì	kaŋá.â `minǐn.i`l.ɔ́	The box became heavy.
64.	tǐ.ìhìtin.ì	tǐ`hitǐn.i`l.ɔ́	They matured.
65	bí.ìlìn.ì	bí`lǐn.i`l.ɔ́	You went.
66.	.ìjùsun.ì	.ìjúsun.i`l.ɔ́	It got deep.
67.	ndomɛ̌.î.ìbèn.ì	ndomɛ̌.î `bén.i`l.ɔ́	The shirt dried.
68.	.ìhàan.ì	.ìhaǎn.i`l.ɔ́	He died.
69.	.ì`paǎn.ì	.ì`paǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	He killed it.

<u>Drill IX.</u> Change these past tense negative sentences to past tense perfect form affirmative sentences.

1.	ndomɛ̌.î.ìbèn.ì	ndomɛ̌.î.ìbéng.a	The shirt has dried.
2.	kúgbɛ.î.ì`nɛmûn.ì	kúgbɛ.î.ì`nɛmûng.a	The warrior has wounded it.
3.	bí.ìlìn.ì	bí`yá	You have gone.

4.	.ìnyávɔ̀nîn.ì	.ìnyávɔ̀nîng.a He has pinched me.
5.	mahɛ̌.î.ìfìsan.ì	mahɛ̌.î.ìfisǎng.a The chief has improved.
6.	ngí.ìtǐwaǎn.ì	ngítǐwaǎng.a I have killed them.
7.	.ìbèn.ì	.ìbéng.a It has dried out.
8.	ndomɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ.ìgòl.en.ì	ndomɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ`gol.ěng.a These shirts have become clean.
9.	.ìjùsun.ì	.ìjúsung.a It has deepened.
10.	músa.ìnyâ-jalo.îmɛ̌n.ì	músa.ìnyâ-jalo.îmɛ̌ng.a Musa has eaten my orange.
11.	.ìgbìnin.ì	.ìgbíning.a It has coiled.
12.	hiîndo.ínâ.ìnikɛ̌.îlew.ěn.ì	hiîndo.ínâ.ìnikɛ̌.îlew.ěng.a That man has beat the cow.
13.	nɛsí.ìlìn.ì	nɛsí`yá Nesi has gone.
14.	njowǒ.î.ìvàlen.ì	njowǒ.î`váleng.a The potato has sprouted.
15.	bí.ìlìn.ì	bí`yá You have gone.
16.	hagbě.íjî.ìnyágbɛ́n.ì	hagbě.íjínyágbɛ́ng.a This rabbit has chased me.
17.	nɛsí.ìgìl.in.ì	nɛsí`gíl.ing.a Nesi has thought.
18.	hótɛ.î.ìbɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì	hótɛ.î`bɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌ng.a The guest ate the pork.
19.	tǐ.ì`pawan.ì	tǐ`pawang.a They paid it.
20.	músa.ì`kaân.ì	músa.ì`kaâng.a Musa has read it.

21.	músa.ìfìsan.ì	músa.ìfisǎng.a Musa has improved.
22.	kêna-wovɛ.îsiàtǐ.ìlìn.ì	kêna-wovɛ.îsiàtǐ`yá The old men have come.
23.	nikɛ̌.î.ìhàan.ì	nikɛ̌.î.ìhaǎng.a The cow has died.
24.	fɛɛ̌.îsiàtǐ.ìlɛ̀l.in.ì	fɛɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`lɛl.ǐng.a The pots have become black.
25.	.ìhìtin.ì	.ìhitǐng.a It matured.
26.	tǐ.ì`toǒn.ì	tǐ`toǒng.a They have built it.
27.	tǐ.ìhàan.ì	tǐ`haǎng.a They have died.
28.	bí.ìgùlan.ì	bí`gulǎng.a You have fallen.
29.	mǔ.ì`kpɛ́n.ì	mǔ`kpɛ́ng.a We have chased it.
30.	nyahɛ̂.î.ìbɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ì	nyahɛ̂.î.ìbɔndɛ́.îyíl.ing.a The wife has cooked okra.
31.	.ì`paǎn.ì	.ì`paǎng.a He has killed it.
32.	mǔ.ìjɛ̂l.in.ì	mǔ`jɛ̂l.ing.a We have prayed.
33.	.ì`kún.ì	.ì`kúng.a She has smelled it.
34.	tǐ.ìhìtin.ì	tǐ`hitǐng.a They have matured.
35.	tǐ.ìfìsan.ì	tǐ`fisǎng.a They have improved.
36.	kɔtǐ.î.ìmìnin.ì	kɔtǐ.î.ìminǐng.a The stone has become heavy.
37.	nyangbě.î.ìhàan.ì	nyangbě.î.ìhaǎng.a The fox has died.

38.	mǔ.ìhitɛ̂n.ì	mǔ`hitɛ̂ng.a	We have come down.
39.	kpanâ.ìwòvan.ì	kpanâ.ìwóvang.a	Kpana has aged.
40.	hinî.î.ìndílewàǎn.ì	hinî.î.ìndílewàǎng.a	The man has killed a python.
41.	tǐ.ìgɔndîn.ì	tǐ`gɔndîng.a	They have snored.
42.	tǐ.ìtɔmínɛ̀mûn.ì	tǐ`tɔmínɛ̀mûng.a	They have hurt Tommy.
43.	hinî.î.ìfìsan.ì	hinî.î.ìfisǎng.a	The husband has improved.
44.	ngí.ìnɛsívɔ̀nîn.ì	ngí`nɛsívɔ̀nîng.a	I have pinched Nesi.
45.	músa.ì`téw.en.ì	músa.ì`téw.eng.a	Musa has cut it.
46.	.ìgbàndin.ì	.ìgbandǐng.a	It heated up.
47.	mǔ.ì`kaân.ì	mǔ`kaâng.a	We have read it.
48.	ngî.lɛ.î.ìhagbě.îgbɛ́n.ì	ngî.lɛ.î.ìhagbě.îgbɛ́ng.a	The dog has chased the rabbit.
49.	mǔ.ìfìsan.ì	mǔ`fisǎng.a	We have improved.
50.	ngulî.î.ìhàan.ì	ngulî.î.ìhaǎng.a	The cobra has died.
51.	ngí.ì`féndan.ì	ngí`féndang.a	I have filled it.
52.	mǔ.ì`kpɛ́n.ì	mǔ`kpɛ́ng.a	We have chased it.
53.	tangɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ.ìgbàkpan.ì	tangɛ̌.íjîsiàtǐ`gbakpǎng.a	The cassava has become woody.
54.	pundî.î.ìhàan.ì	pundî.î.ìhaǎng.a	The mosquito died.

55.	bí.ìjêl.in.ì	bí`jêl.ing.a	You have prayed.
56.	mǔ.ìgìl.in.ì	mǔ`gíl.ing.a	We have thought.
57.	ndó.î.ìlisôn.ì	ndó.î.ìlisông.a	The child has sneezed.
58.	kênɛ.î.ìhàan.ì	kênɛ.î.ìhaǎng.a	The man has died.
59.	mǔ.ìtǐgbɛ́n.ì	mútǐgbɛ́ng.a	We have chased them away.
60.	tǐ.ìlùtun.ì	tǐ`lútung.a	They have become deaf.
61.	.ìŋɔ̂n.an.ì	.ìŋɔ̂n.ang.a	It has gotten bitter.
62.	tǐ.ìbɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì	tǐ`bɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌ng.a	They have eaten the pork.
63.	nyɔɔ̌.î.ìvàlen.ì	nyɔɔ̌.î.ìváleng.a	The corn has sprouted.
64.	mǔ.ìnjé-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì	mǔ.ìnjé-huɛ.îmɛ̌ng.a	We have eaten the goat meat.
65.	tɔmí.ìhɛ̀l.ɛn.ì	tɔmí.ìhɛ́l.ɛng.a	Tommy has stooped down.
66.	mǔ.ìnyɔɔ̌.îvúkan.ì	mǔ`nyɔɔ̌.îvúkang.a	We have ground the corn.
67.	kal.ǐ.î.ìlìn.ì	kal.ǐ.î.ìyá	The snake has gone.
68.	.ì`kún.ì	.ì`kúng.a	He has smelled it.
69.	ngí.ìlìn.ì	ngí`yá	I have gone. (Goodbye)
70.	nɛsí.ìlìn.ì	nɛsí`yá	Nesi has gone.

Drill X. Make the following ngɔ̀ sentences negative. Notice the pause before .ìlé.

1.	fɛɛ̌.îvéndangɔ̀	fɛɛ̌.îvéndangɔ̀.ìlé	The pot is not filled.
2.	mbɛɛ̌.îvúkangɔ̀	mbɛɛ̌.îvúkangɔ̀.ìlé	The rice is not ground.
3.	nyangbě.îhaǎngɔ̀	nyangbě.îhaǎngɔ̀.ìlé	The fox is not dead.
4.	sâlo.îhitǐngɔ̀	sâlo.îhitǐngɔ̀.ìlé	The orange is not ripe.
5.	kpayɛ̌.îgol.ěngɔ̀	kpayɛ̌.îgol.ěngɔ̀.ìlé	The head-tie is not white.
6.	kpángbɛ.îminǐngɔ̀	kpángbɛ.îminǐngɔ̀.ìlé	The broom is not heavy.
7.	kpitǐ.îlogbǒngɔ̀	kpitǐ.îlogbǒngɔ̀.ìlé	The grass is not withered.
8.	foni.îbéngɔ̀	foni.îbéngɔ̀.ìlé	The elephant grass is not dry.
9.	kpolǐ.îgútungɔ̀	kpolǐ.îgútungɔ̀.ìlé	The worm has not shortened.
10.	fɛ́ngbɛ.îlɛl.ǐngɔ̀	fɛ́ngbɛ.îlɛl.ǐngɔ̀.ìlé	The satin is not black.
11.	fál.ɛ.îválengɔ̀	fál.ɛ.îválengɔ̀.ìlé	The bamboo has not sprouted.
12.	lumbê.îlúlangɔ̀	lumbê.îlúlangɔ̀.ìlé	The orange is not rotten.

Drill XI. Make these present time sentences negative.

1.	nyáâ.á`gulǎma	ngí.ìgulǎma	I am not falling.
2.	bíâ.á`gíl.ima	bí.ìgíl.ima	You are not thinking.
3.	tǐâ.á`wǎma	tǐ.ìwǎma	They are not coming.

4.	tâ.á`haǎma	.ìhaǎma He is not dying.
5.	mahɛ̌.î-nyahɛ.îl.ɔ́`lǐma	mahɛ̌.î-nyahɛ.î.ìlǐma The chief's wife is not going.
6.	núm.u.ínâl.ɔ́`wǎma	núm.u.ínâ.ìwǎma That person is not coming.
7.	tǐâ.á`lakpâma	tǐ.ìlakpâma They are not maturing.
8.	tâ.á`válema	.ìválema It is not sprouting.
9.	bíâ.á`hitɛ̂ma	bí.ìhitɛ̂ma You are not coming down.
10.	nyáâ.á`gɔndîma	ngí.ìgɔndîma I am not coming.
11.	tǐâ.á`gbâw.oma	tǐ.ìgbâw.oma They are not howling.
12.	kɔlǐ.îl.ɔ́`gbínima	kɔlǐ.î.ìgbínima The iron (spring) is coiling.
13.	tǐâ.á`mɛl.ǐma	tǐ.ìmɛl.ǐma They are not grazing.
14.	wǔâ.á`jɛ̂l.ima	wǔ.ìjɛ̂l.ima We are not praying.
15.	nyáâ.á`lisôma	ngí.ìlisôma I am not sneezing.
16.	tǐâ.á`kpuǎmà	tǐ.ì`kpuǎmà They are not pulling it out.
17.	tâ.á`muâmà	.ì`muâmà She is not bathing it.
18.	ndó.îl.ɔ́`kaâmà	ndó.î.ì`kaâmà The child is not reading it.
19.	kúgbɛ.îl.ɔ́`mbômà	kúgbɛ.î.ì`mbômà The hero is not shooting at it.
20.	mǔâ.á`fogbâmà	mǔ.ì`fogbâmà We are not whipping it.

21.	nyáâ.ábígâvamà	ngí.ìbígâvamà I am not cheating you.
22.	mǔâ.átǐgbatɛ̂mà	mǔ.ìtǐgbatɛ̂mà We are not fixing them.
23.	nyáâ.ángǐvɔnîmà	ngí.ìngǐvɔnîmà I am not pinching her.
24.	tâ.á`njɛɛ̌.îléw.emà	.ìnjɛɛ̌.îléw.emà He is not crossing the river.

Drill XII. The following drill is not intended to prepare the student for conversing in Mende. Its purposes are to provide a review for the previous eleven sections and to provide a test of tense recognition. You must know in which tense the sentence is, in order to make the sentence negative. Make the following sentences negative.

1.	kɔlɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`kulɛ̌.íjîma	kɔlɛ̌.î.ìkulɛ̌.íjîma The book is not on this cloth.
2.	.ìbɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ì`l.ɔ́	.ìbɔndɛ́.îyíl.in.ì She did not cook the okra.
3.	nɔtɔ.íjîsiàtábínɛ̀mû`l.ɔ́	nɔtɔ.íjîsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀bínɛ̀mû These clams will not hurt you.
4.	ngí`yá	ngí.ìlìn.ì I did not go.
5.	mǔ`gulǎng.a	mǔ.ìgùlan.ì We did not fall.
6.	mbɛɛ̌.îbéngɔ̀	mbɛɛ̌.îbéngɔ̀.ìlé The rice is not dry.
7.	ndó.îl.ɔ́`kɔ̂l.imà	ndó.î.ì`kɔ̂l.imà The child is not picking it.
8.	ngúl.i.î`logbǒn.i`l.ɔ́	ngúl.i.î.ìlògbon.ì The tree did not wither.
9.	kênɛ.îsiàtányávàwɔ̂l.i`l.ɔ́	kênɛ.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀nyávàwɔ̂l.i The men will not disturb me.
10.	ndó.îsiàtǐ`gíl.ing.a	ndó.îsiàtǐ.ìgìl.in.ì The children did not think.

11.	mŭ`téw.en.ì`l.ɔ́	mŭ.ì`téw.en.ì We did not cut it.
12.	nyahê.îl.ɔ́`ngéyamà	nyahê.î.ì`ngéyamà The wife is not buying it.
13.	mitɛ̆.ínâsiàl.ɔ́tĭyêya	mitɛ̆.ínâsiàtĭ.ìtĭyêya Those spoons are not theirs.
14.	ngĭlól.ongɔ̀	ngĭlól.ongɔ̀.ìlé He is not hateful.
15.	ngî.lɛ.î.ìhagbĕ.îgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	ngî.lɛ.î.ìhagbĕ.îgbɛ́n.ì The dog did not chase the rabbit.
16.	ngí`hɔ́l.ɔn.ì`l.ɔ́	ngí.ì`hɔ́l.ɔn.ì I did not sew it.
17.	`mbéngɔ̀	`mbéngɔ̀.ìlé It is not dry.
18.	tă`bɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̆`l.ɔ́	tɛ̆.ɛ̀bɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̆ They will not eat the pork.
19.	mŭ`fogbân.ì`l.ɔ́	mŭ.ì`fogbân.ì We did not whip it.
20.	núm.u-nyamu.ínâl.ɔ́béi	núm.u-nyamu.ínâ.ìbéi That evil person is not here.
21.	mbaă-lulɛ.î.ìválen.i`l.ɔ́	mbaă-lulɛ.î.ìvàlen.ì The rotten rice did not sprout.
22.	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́`fúkamà	nyâpo.î.ì`fúkamà The woman is not grinding it.
23.	.àbé`l.ɔ́	.ɛ̀bé It will not dry.
24.	kamɔ́.îl.ɔ́`kpêmà	kamɔ́.î.ì`kpêmà The teacher is not looking at it.
25.	mŭâ.ábíwôoma	mŭ.ìbíwôoma We are not behind you.
26.	.ìbén.i`l.ɔ́	.ìbèn.ì It did not dry out.
27.	mahɛ̆.îwóvangɔ̀	mahɛ̆.îwóvangɔ̀.ìlé The chief is not old.

28.	kɔ́w.i.ínâsiàl.ɔ́`jagbɛ.îmahú	kɔ́w.i.ínâsiàtǐ.ìjagbɛ.îmahú Those boxes are not above the basin.
29.	tǐ`pawan.ì`l.ɔ́	tǐ.ì`pawan.ì They did not pay it.
30.	hiîndo-wovɛ.î`pɛ́l.ɛ-ninɛ.îloǒng.a	hiîndo-wovɛ.î.ìpɛ́l.ɛ-ninɛ.îloǒn.ì The old man did not build a new house.
31.	mahɛ̌.î`fisǎn.i`l.ɔ́	mahɛ̌.î.ìfìsan.ì The chief did not get better.
32.	nyahɛ̂.îsiàtátǐgbuǎ`l.ɔ́	nyahɛ̂.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀tǐgbuǎ The wives will not pull them out.
33.	nyáâ.átǐgu.lɔ́	ngí.ìtǐgu.lɔ́ I am not in front of them.
34.	haâkɛ.îl.ɔ́`minǐma	haâkɛ.î.ìminǐma The load is not growing heavy.
35.	nyɛ́.îyíl.ingɔ̀	nyɛ́.îyíl.ingɔ̀.ìlé The fish is not cooked.
36.	tâ.á`mbɛɛ̌.îvâl.imà	.ìmbɛɛ̌.îvâl.imà He is not sowing rice.
37.	ngî.lɛ.î.ìgbâw.on.i`l.ɔ́	ngî.lɛ.î.ìgbâw.on.ì The dog did not howl.
38.	.à`fâl.i`l.ɔ́	.ɛ̀ fâl.i He will not sow it.
39.	tǐ`gbandǐn.i`l.ɔ́	tǐ.ìgbàndin.ì They did not heat up.
40.	bí`gulǎn.i`l.ɔ́	bí.ìgùlan.ì You did not fall.
41.	ngábíléw.e`l.ɔ́	ngɛ́.ɛ̀bíléw.e I will not cut you.
42.	nɛsí.ì`kaân.ì`l.ɔ́	nɛsí.ì`kaân.ì Nesi did not read it.
43.	nyâpo-wovɛ.î.ìjɛ̂l.in.i`l.ɔ́	nyâpo-wovɛ.î.ìjɛ̂l.in.ì The old woman did not pray.

44. tâ.áˋtɛ́mà
.ìˋtɛ́mà
She is not lifting it.

45. tǐâ.ámǔ-ja.angɔwôoma
tǐ.ìmǔ-ja.angɔwôoma
They are not behind all three of us.

46. ngú.lɛ.îl.ɔ́ˋsani.îgohú
ngú.lɛ.î.ìsani.îgohú
The oil is not inside the bottle.

47. músatǐgbɛ́n.ìˋl.ɔ́
músa.ìtǐgbɛ́n.ì
Musa did not chase them.

48. hiîndo.î.àndopô-wol.o.îpawaˋl.ɔ́
hiîndo.î.ɛ̀ndopô-wol.o.îpawa
The man will not pay the small boy.

49. .ìminǐn.iˋl.ɔ́
.ìmìnin.ì
It did not become heavy.

50. mǎˋnikǎ-huɛ.îmɛ̌ˋl.ɔ́
mɛ̌.ɛ̀nikǎ-huɛ.îmɛ̌
We will not eat the beef.

51. tǐâ.áˋngíl.imà
tǐ.ìˋngíl.imà
They are not cooking it.

52. ngǐwóvangɔ̀
ngǐwóvangɔ̀.ìlé
He did not age.

53. tǎˋlǐˋl.ɔ́
tɛ̌.ɛ̀lǐ
They will not go.

54. mbɛɛ̌.î.ìlúlan.iˋl.ɔ́
mbɛɛ̌.î.ìlùlan.ì
The rice did not rot.

55. tɔmíˋwǎng.a
tɔmí.ìwàn.ì
Tommy did not come.

56. tǐâ.áˋbɔlɛ.îyéyamà
tǐ.ìbɔlɛ.îyéyamà
They are not buying the hat.

57. nyáâ.áˋpundî.îwaǎmà
ngí.ìpundî.îwaǎmà
I am not killing this mosquito.

58. ngî.lɛ.î.ìgbâw.on.iˋl.ɔ́
ngî.lɛ.î.ìgbâw.on.ì
The dog did not howl.

59. mǔâ.áˋlǐma
mǔ.ìlǐma
We are not going.

60. mǎˋwǎˋl.ɔ́
mɛ̌.ɛ̀wǎ
We will not come.

61.	núm.u.ínâ.ìwǎng.a	núm.u.ínâ.ìwàn.ì That person did not come.
62.	.àlogbǒ`l.ɔ́	.ɛ̀logbǒ It will not wither.
63.	.àbé`l.ɔ́	.ɛ̀bé It will not dry.
64.	ngǐgɔ̂l.ingɔ̀	ngǐgɔ̂l.ingɔ̌.ìlé She is not engaged.
65.	.àlúla`l.ɔ́	.ɛ̀lúla It will not rot.
66.	ngǐlɛ́mbingɔ̀	ngǐlɛ́mbingɔ̀.ìlé He is not long-lived.
67.	tɔmí.ìjɛ̂l.in.i`l.ɔ́	tɔmí.ìjɛ̂l.in.ì Tommy did not pray.
68.	tǐ`gbandǐn.i`l.ɔ́	tǐ.ìgbàndin.ì They did not heat up.
69.	ngǐyafǎngɔ̀	ngǐyafǎngɔ̀.ìlé He is not a gossip.
70.	gboji.îsiàtǐ`hitǐn.i`l.ɔ́	gboji.îsiàtǐ.ìhìtin.ì The plums did not mature.
71.	`púngɔ̀	`púngɔ̀.ìlé It is not planted.
72.	gboji.î.ìhitǐn.i`l.ɔ́	gboji.î.ìhìtin.ì The plum did not ripen.
73.	tâ.á`tɛ́mà	.ì`tɛ́mà He is not lifting it.
74.	bá`fisǎ`l.ɔ́	bɛ́.ɛ̀fisǎ You will not improve.
75.	ndomɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`gol.ěn.i`l.ɔ́	ndomɛ̌.îsiàtǐ.ìgòl.en.ì The shirts did not get clean.
76.	tâ.á`fɛɛ̌.ínâbu	.ìfɛɛ̌.ínâbu It is not under that pot.
77.	bí`gulǎn.i`l.ɔ́	bí.ìgùlan.ì You did not fall.

78. .ì`paǎn.ì`l.ɔ́
.ìpaǎn.ì
He did not kill it.

79. .àhaǎ`l.ɔ́
.ɛ̀haǎ
He will not die.

80. hiîndo.îsiàtǎ`ndɛndɛ̌gbatɛ̂`l.ɔ́
hiîndo.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀ndɛndɛ̌gbatɛ̂
The men will not make a boat.

81. tǎ`nyámu`l.ɔ́
tɛ̌.ɛ̀nyámu
They will not go bad.

82. hótɛ.î.ìbɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́
hótɛ.î.ìbɛɛ́si-huɛ.îmɛ̌n.ì
The stranger did not eat the pork.

83. nɛsí.ì`kaân.ì`l.ɔ́
nɛsí.ì`kaân.ì
Nesi did not read it.

84. .àvále`l.ɔ́
.ɛ̀vále
It will not sprout.

85. mǔ`gíl.in.i`l.ɔ́
mǔ.ìgìl.in.ì
We did not think.

86. mbɛɛ̌.ínâ.àyejě`l.ɔ́
mbɛɛ̌.ínâ.ɛ̀yejě
That rice will not get stale.

87. njal.ɛ̌.íjî.àhaǎ`l.ɔ́
njal.ɛ̌.íjî.ɛ̀haǎ
This leopard will not die.

88. kulɛ̌.îsiàtǐ`lɛl.ǐn.i`l.ɔ́
kulɛ̌.îsiàtǐ.ìlɛ̀l.in.ì
The clothes become black.

89. nikɛ̌.îsiàtǎ`wǎ`l.ɔ́
nikɛ̌.îsiàtɛ̌.ɛ̀wǎ
The cows will not come.

90. .ìjúsun.i`l.ɔ́
.ìjùsun.ì
It did not become deep.

91. bí`yá
bí.ìlìn.ì
You did not go.

92. mǔ`kpɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́
mǔ.ì`kpɛ́n.ì
We did not chase it.

93. hagbě.ínâ.ìhaǎn.i`l.ɔ́
hagbě.ínâ.ìhàan.ì
That rabbit did not die.

94. njowǒ.î.ìválen.i`l.ɔ́
njowǒ.î.ìvàlen.ì
The potato did not sprout.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

MORE ON THE NOMINAL PHRASE

There is a series of forms which combine with single nouns or verbs (without objects) by the use of the hyphen. These forms can be connected to verb-object constructions by changing their tones to low tones. The result of the construction of compounds with the following forms is a nominal phrase.

mɔ̀ - (agent)
han.ǐ - thing, (instrument)
yaa - -ness, -hood
mà - place
hindâ - business, affair, matter
yii - way to do something (with transitive verbs only)
la - -ing

Also included in this section are instrumental expressions derived from .à, la forms.

The Suffix mɔ̀, Agents and the Instrumental Form

Mɔ̀ means 'person', one who does something or who has certain characteristics. When mɔ̀ refers to a type of person, it is connected to a preceding noun or verb by a hyphen. Not all nouns and verbs can be followed by mɔ̀ and there does not seem to be any formal or semantic explanation to account for which do and which do not. These forms with mɔ̀ are listed in the lexicon.

The indefinite plural of mɔ̀ is bla.a. The definite plural of mɔ̀ is blɛ.ɛ.îsià. The forms -mɔ.ījí, -mɔ.īná, -mɔ.íjîsià, mɔ.ínâsià, blɛ.ɛ.íjîsià, blɛ.ɛ.ínâsià also occur.

The main use of mɔ̀ is as an agentive suffix.

dɔmɛ́gbùǎmɔ̀ 'a story teller' (dɔmɛ́ 'story', kpuǎ 'pull out')

Many of the nominal phrases of this type have been established by usage but new ones may be formed. Here are a few.

1.	hél.egbɛ́mɔ̀	elephant hunter
2.	nyɛ́gbɛ́mɔ̀	fisherman
3.	kítiléw.emɔ̀	judge ('dilemma cutter')
4.	kpa-yialěmɔ̀	debt collector ('debt word sayer')
5.	manîyátɛ́mɔ̀	trapper ('trap's point raiser')
6.	mbaǎléw.emɔ̀	rice cutter
7.	ndɛ́.ɛgùlǎmɔ̀	liar
8.	ngewɔ̂ɔ-yialěmɔ̀	preacher ('God-word sayer')
9.	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imɔ̀	cook
10.	nikǎwaǎmɔ̀	butcher

11.	yongaléw.emɔ̀	bragger
12.	mbaǎvâl.imɔ̀	rice planter
13.	pɛ́l.ɛlòǒmɔ̀	house builder
14.	kulǎvɛl.ɛ̌mɔ̀	cloth weaver
15.	nyahâmánimɔ̀	woman chaser
16.	pɛ́lɛbugòl.ěmɔ̀	house cleaner
17.	nikǎmahúgbêmɔ̀	cattle tender
18.	mbaǎmaǎgbêmɔ̀	rice tender
19.	mbaǎhiyǎmɔ̀	rice husker
20.	tangǎhî.imɔ̀	cassava planter
21.	ketěvúkamɔ̀	guinea corn pounder
22.	kɔl.ɔ̌gaâmɔ̀	student
23.	nyínawàǎmɔ̀	rat killer
24.	bafaloǒmɔ̀	hut builder
25.	fel.ěgɔ́mɔ̀	trader

The Instrumental Expression

When tools, devices or supplies are used or consumed in the performance of a task, the tool etc. to be mentioned is used with the form la or .à. If the instrument is a noun, .à precedes the noun. If the instrument is a third person pronoun (it), the marker of the deleted object _̀, precedes la: ˋla. Then la gets its tone from _̀. There are a number of verbs that require la, .à forms and have a special meaning. There is a special form of the pronoun used in those cases.

là Pronoun	Tone
ngé	(¯)
bíe	(¯¯)
ngǐe	(_¯)
mǔe	(_¯)
wǔe	(_¯)
tǐe	(_¯)

The la pronoun is preceded by .à. The instrument may be either definite or indefinite.

Compounded Instruments

An instrument may be part of a nominal compound which consists of an object, a transitive verb and the instrument. The tone of the instrument is always _̀, and there is consonant mutation on the instrument.

.ìngúl.uwɔ́n.ìˋl.ɔ́.àkóni.í	He felled a tree with the ax.
kóni.îl.ɔ́béi	The ax is here.
ngúl.uwɔ́gòni.îl.ɔ́béi	The tree-felling ax is here.

The resulting compound ngúl.uwɔ́gòni.í can be used the same as any other noun: .ìpé.en.ì`l.ɔ́.àngul.uwɔ́gòni 'He did it with a tree-felling ax.'

Drill I. Form phrases with mɔ̀ from these sentences.

1.	ngǐbayangɔ̀	baya-mɔ.í... sly person
2.	ngǐvɛ́l.ingɔ̀	fɛ́l.i-mɔ.í... poor person
3.	hál.el.ɔ́ngǐyêya	hál.e-mɔ.í... doctor
4.	ngǐhigbɛ̌ngɔ̀	higbɛ̌-mɔ.í... sick person
5.	hinîl.ɔ́ngǐyêya	hinî-mɔ.í... person with a husband
6.	hótal.ɔ́ngǐ-wɛlɛ.îbu	hóta-mɔ.í... person with a guest

Drill II. Put the following mɔ̀ compounds into the definite plural.

1.	fɛ́l.i-mɔ.í	fɛ́l.i-blɛ.ɛ.îsià poor people
2.	kâ.amaá-mɔ.í	kâ.amaá-blɛ.ɛ.îsià wonderful people
3.	kɔ́l.i-mɔ.í	kɔ́l.i-blɛ.ɛ.îsià leopard-like people
4.	hɔ́na-mɔ.í	hɔ́na-blɛ.ɛ.îsià witches
5.	kɛ́nyɛ-mɔ.í	kɛ́nyɛ-blɛ.ɛ.îsià foreigners
6.	pu-mɔ.í	pu-blɛ.ɛ.îsià Englishmen, White men
7.	kuɛtɛ́-mɔ.í	kuɛtɛ́-blɛ.ɛ.îsià superstitious people
8.	kpɛmbɔ̂-mɔ.í	kpɛmbɔ̂-blɛ.ɛ.îsià judges

9.	ngal.î-mɔ.í	ngal.î-blɛ.ɛ.îsià blacksmiths
10.	ndé-mɔ.í	ndé-blɛ.ɛ.îsià parents

Drill III. Form nominal compounds with mɔ̀ as the agent from these sentences.

1.	tâ.á`dɔmɛ́gbùǎmà	dɔmɛ́gbùǎmɔ̀ story teller
2.	bí`hagběgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	hagběgbɛ́mɔ̀ rabbit hunter
3.	.ìbafaloǒn.ì`l.ɔ́	bafaloǒmɔ̀ hut builder
4.	kúgbɛ.î`ngúl.uwɔ́ng.a	ngúl.uwɔ́mɔ̀ lumberjack
5.	tâ.á`mɔtógbàtɛ̂mà	mɔtógbàtɛ̂mɔ̀ mechanic
6.	nyâpo.î.àkulǎhɔ́l.ɔ`l.ɔ́	kulǎhɔ́l.ɔmɔ̀ seamstress
7.	tâ.á`nikǎmahúgbêmà	nikǎmahúgbêmɔ̀ cowherd
8.	.ìnyínawàǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	nyínawàǎmɔ̀ rat killer
9.	tâ.á`ndɛ́.ɛgùlǎmà	ndɛ́.ɛgùlǎmɔ̀ liar
10.	.ànyɛ́gbɛ́`l.ɔ́	nyɛ́gbɛ́mɔ̀ fisherman
11.	.ìmanîyátɛ́ng.a	manîyátɛ́mɔ̀ trap setter
12.	.àmɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.i.`l.ɔ́	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imɔ̀ cook
13.	tâ.á`bɛɛ́siwàǎmà	bɛɛ́siwàǎmɔ̀ pork butcher
14.	tâ.á`kɔl.ɔ̌gaâmà	kɔl.ɔ̌gaâmɔ̀ student

15.	.ànikǎwaǎ`l.ɔ́	nikǎwaǎmɔ̀ beef butcher

<u>Drill IV.</u> Form plural nominal compounds from these sentences.

1.	tǐâ.á`hél.egbɛ́mà	hél.egbɛ́blɛ̀.ɛ.îsià elephant hunters
2.	mǔâ.á`pɛ́l.ɛbugòl.ěmà	pɛ́l.ɛbugòl.ěblɛ̀.ɛ.îsià house cleaners
3.	tǐâ.á`kulǎvɛl.ɛ̌mà	kulǎvɛl.ɛ̌blɛ̀.ɛ.îsià cloth weavers
4.	tǐâ.á`ketěvúkamà	ketěvúkablɛ̀.ɛ.îsià guinea corn pounders
5.	tá`nyɛ́gbɛ́`l.ɔ́	nyɛ́gbɛ́blɛ̀.ɛ.îsià fishermen

<u>Drill V.</u> Extend these sentences to include the suggested instrumental expression.

1.	.ìngúl.uwɔ́n.ì`l.ɔ́ kóni	.ìngúl.uwɔ́n.ì`l.ɔ́.àkóni He felled a tree with an ax.
2.	.àpɛ́l.ɛlòŏ`l.ɔ́ foni	.àpɛ́l.ɛlòŏ`l.ɔ́.àfoni He will build a house with grass.
3.	.ìndó.îwán.ì`l.ɔ́ (ngúa) mbawâ	.ìndó.îwán.ì`l.ɔ́.àmbawâ She washed the child with soap.
4.	.ìkulǎhɔ́l.ɔng.a pu-miiji	.ìkulǎhɔ́l.ɔng.a.àpu-miiji She has sewed a dress with an imported needle.
5.	tǎ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îloŏ`l.ɔ́ ngúl.u	tǎ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îloŏ`l.ɔ́.àngúl.u They will build the house out of wood.
6.	mǎ`hél.e.îgbɛ́`l.ɔ́ kpandɛ̂	mǎ`hél.e.îgbɛ́`l.ɔ́.àkpandɛ̂ We will hunt the elephant with a gun.

7.	ngá`nikɛ̌.îlew.ě`1.ɔ́ fóma	ngá`nikɛ̌.îlew.ě`1.ɔ́.àfóma I will beat the cow with a switch.
8.	.ìmbɛɛ̌.îvúkan.ì`1.ɔ́ ngetê	.ìmbɛɛ̌.îvúkan.ì`1.ɔ́.àngetê She pounded the rice with a pestle.
9.	.à`pé.e`1.ɔ́ ϕ	.à`pé.e`1.ɔ́`la He will do it with it.
10.	kênɛ.î`nikɛ̌.îwaǎn.ì`1.ɔ́ mbówa	kênɛ.î`nikɛ̌.îwaǎn.ì`1.ɔ́.àmbówa The man killed the cow with a knife.
11.	tǐ.ì`gbɛ́n.ì mbomǎ	tǐ.ì`kpɛ́n.ì.àmbomǎ They did not hunt it with a net.
12.	.à`mɛ̌`1.ɔ́ mitǎ	.à`mɛ̌`1.ɔ́.àmitǎ He will eat it with a spoon.
13.	.ì`pé.en.ì`1.ɔ́ miîji	.ì`pé.en.ì`1.ɔ́.àmiîji She did it with a needle.
14.	.ìpámbɛ.îtéwen.ì`1.ɔ́ mbogbá	.ìpámbɛ.îléwen.ì`1.ɔ́.àmbogbá He cut the vine with a machete.
15.	tǐ`ndɛndɛ̌gbatɛ̂n.ì`1.ɔ́ kpɔ́gbɔ	tǐ`ndɛndɛ̌gbatɛ̂n.ì`1.ɔ́.àkpɔ́gbɔ They made a boat with a hammer.

<u>Drill VI.</u> Construct sentences ending with instrumental expressions from the following questions.

1.	.ì ngúl.u pɔ́n.ì kóni	.ìngúl.uwɔ́n.ì`1.ɔ́.àkóni He felled the tree with an ax.
2.	bí ϕ pé.en.ì ngeyǎ	bí`pé.en.ì`1.ɔ́.àngeyǎ You did it with a rope.

3. nyahɛ̂.î.à
∅
ngíl.i
ngúl.lɔ
nyahɛ̂.î.à`ngíl.i`l.ɔ́.àngú.lɔ
The woman will cook it with oil.

4. .ì
ndó.í
ngúan.ì
sapó
.ìndó.îwán.ì`l.ɔ́.àsapó
She washed the child with a fiber bathing scrubber.

5. .ì
mbɛɛ̌.í
mɛ̌n.ì
ngǐlokǒ.í
.ìmbɛɛ̌.îmɛ̌n.ì`l.ɔ́.àngǐlokǒ.í
He ate the rice with his fingers.

6. tǐ
∅
pé.en.ì
pámba
tǐ`pé.en.ì`l.ɔ́.àpámba
They did it with a vine.

7. kênɛ.î.à
hél.e.í
paǎ
sɔ́l.i
kênɛ.î.àhél.e.îwaǎ`l.ɔ́.àsɔ́li
The man will kill the elephant with a spear.

8. .ì
kulǎ
hɔ́l.ɔng.a
miîji.í
.ìkulǎhɔ́l.ɔng.a.àmiîji.í
She has sewed a dress with the needle.

9. ngí
ndopô.í
ndew.ěng.a
mbalǔ
ngí`ndopô.îlew.ěng.a.àmbalǔ
I have caned the boy with a cane.

10. mɛndé-blɛ.ɛ.îsiàtǎ`
pu-mɔ.í
paǎ
pujɛ
mɛndé-blɛ.ɛ.îsiàtǎ`pu-mɔ.îwaǎ`l.ɔ́àpujɛ
The Mendes will kill the white man with pepper.

11. tǎ`
∅
hagá
mbówa
tǎ`hagá`l.ɔ́.àmbówa
They will carve it with a knife.

12. músa.à
ngǐ
ndew.ě
ngǐ-likpɔ.í

músa.àngǐlew.ě`l.ɔ́.àngǐ-likpɔ.í
Musa will strike him with his walking stick.

13. tǎ`
ϕ
kpatɛ̂
gbanyâ

tǎ`kpatɛ̂`l.ɔ́.àgbanyâ
They will fix it with pliers.

14. tǎ`
pɛ́l.ɛ.í
toǒ
ngúl.u

tǎ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒ`l.ɔ́.àngúl.u
They will build the house out of wood.

15. kênɛ.î`
nikɛ̌.í
paǎ
mbówa

kênɛ.î`nikɛ̌.îwaǎ`l.ɔ́.àmbówa
The man killed the cow with a knife.

16. .à
ϕ
pé.e
ϕ

.à`pé.e`l.ɔ́`la
He will do it with it.

17. mǎ`
hél.e.íná
kpɛ́
kpandɛ̂

mǎ`hél.e.ínâgbɛ́`l.ɔ́.àkpandɛ̂
We will hunt that elephant with a gun.

18. ndopô.îsiàtǎ`
ϕ
kpɛ́
mbomǎ

ndopô.îsiàtǎ`kpɛ́`l.ɔ́.àmbomǎ
The boys will hunt it with a net.

19. .ɛ̀
ϕ
mɛ̌
mitǎ

.ɛ̀`mɛ̌.àmitǎ
He will not eat it with a spoon.

<u>Drill VII.</u> Form nominal compounds containing an instrumental expression from the following sentences.

1. .ìngúl.uwɔ́n.ì`l.ɔ́.àkóni	ngúl.uwɔ́gòni ax for felling trees

12.	músa.à ngǐ ndew.ě ngǐ-likpɔ.í	músa.àngǐlew.ě`l.ɔ́.àngǐ-likpɔ.í Musa will strike him with his walking stick.
13.	tǎ` ø kpatɛ̂ gbanyâ	tǎ`kpatɛ̂`l.ɔ́.àgbanyâ They will fix it with pliers.
14.	tǎ` pɛ́l.ɛ.í toǒ ngúl.u	tǎ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒ`l.ɔ́.àngúl.u They will build the house out of wood.
15.	kênɛ.î` nikɛ̌.í paǎ mbówa	kênɛ.î`nikɛ̌.îwaǎ`l.ɔ́.àmbówa The man killed the cow with a knife.
16.	.à ø pé.e ø	.à`pé.e`l.ɔ́`la He will do it with it.
17.	mǎ` hél.e.íná kpɛ́ kpandɛ̂	mǎ`hél.e.ínâgbɛ́`l.ɔ́.àkpandɛ̂ We will hunt that elephant with a gun.
18.	ndopô.îsiàtǎ` ø kpɛ́ mbomǎ	ndopô.îsiàtǎ`kpɛ́`l.ɔ́.àmbomǎ The boys will hunt it with a net.
19.	.ɛ̀ ø mɛ̌ mitǎ	.ɛ̀`mɛ̌.àmitǎ He will not eat it with a spoon.

Drill VII. Form nominal compounds containing an instrumental expression from the following sentences.

1.	.ìngúl.uwɔ́n.ì`l.ɔ́.àkóni	ngúl.uwɔ́gòni ax for felling trees

2.	.ìpâniwán.ì`l.ɔ́.àmbawâ	pâniwábàwa	dish-washing soap
3.	.ìkulǎhɔ́l.ɔng.a.àmiîji	kulǎhɔ́l.ɔmìiji	needle for sewing cloth
4.	tǎ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒ`l.ɔ́.àngúl.u	pɛ́l.ɛlòǒwùl.u	wood for house building
5.	bá`nikɛ̌.îlew.ě`l.ɔ́.àfóma	nikǎlew.ěvòma	switch for beating cows
6.	tǐ.ìmbɛɛ̌.îvúkan.ì.àngetê	mbaǎvúkayète	pestle for rice pounding
7.	nyahɛ̂.î`nikɛ̌.îwaǎn.ì`l.ɔ́.àmbówa	nikǎwaǎbòwa	beef butchering knife
8.	tǐ`hagbě.îgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́.àmbomǎ	hagběgbɛ́bòma	rabbit net
9.	.ìmɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.ing.a.àmitǎ	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imìta	food cooking spoon
10.	.ìpámbɛ.îléwen.ì`l.ɔ́.àmbogbá	pámbaléwebògba	machete for cutting vines
11.	nyahɛ̂.î.àmɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.i`l.ɔ́.àngú.lɔ	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.iwù.lɔ	cooking oil
12.	mǎ`hél.e.ínâgbɛ́`l.ɔ́.àkpandɛ̂	hél.egbɛ́gbàndɛ	elephant gun

Han.ǐ: 'Thing'

In the OVI (Object Verb Instrument) complex, if the actual name of the instrument is not known or for some reason the speaker wishes to avoid mentioning it, the word *han.ǐ*, 'thing' is used. In 'natural' Mende where the speakers generally know the names of the things they are discussing this construction will not be heard too often. However, for non-native speakers, the availability of *han.ǐ* as a 'dummy word' which can stand for words you do not know or words which you have forgotten, can be extremely useful. *Han.ǐ* is also used natively in *ad hoc* word-making such as *mɔtɔ́gbàtɛ̂hàn.i* 'automotive tool' (car fixing thing). Study the following :

1.	núm.uwówùmbǔhàn.i (mbumbǔ - lift, take)	person's voice-taking thing (tape, disc recorder)
2.	njɛpɛ̌jòngbâhàn.i (songbâ - snap onto)	thing that 'snaps' onto the voice (microphone, telephone, two-way radio, walkie-talkie)
3.	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.ihàn.i	food cooking thing
4.	kulǎhɔ́l.ɔhàn.i	cloth sewing thing also: kulǎhɔ́lɔmàšin
5.	pɛ́l.ɛlòǒhàn.i	house building tool (saw, hammer, knife etc.)
6.	kulǎlɛl.ǐhàn.i	cloth blackening thing (dye, any color)
7.	kulǎgbóngbohàn.i (kpóngbo - iron)	cloth ironing thing (iron, ironing table)
8.	kɔlɔ̌gaâhàn.i	book reading thing (spectacles)
9.	ngɔmbǔyátɛ́hàn.i	fire setting thing (matches, lighter)
10.	njaǎgbɔl.ǐhàn.i	water drinking thing
11.	wátigɛ́hàn.i	time showing thing (watch, clock)

Additional forms with han.ǐ are made with single nouns or verbs. This type of form is more limited than the last.

1.	fâl.i-han.i	thing to sow: seed (exclusively a learner's word)
2.	fé-han.i	swollen thing (a sore, ulcer)
3.	fúl.u-han.i	living creature
4.	kɔ́-han.i	weapon
5.	kɔ̌-han.i	tool ('iron thing')
6.	kpɔl.ǐ-han.i	a drink
7.	mɛ̌-han.i (mɛ̌-hɛ or mɛ̌hɛ̂)	food
8.	pǒ-han.i	inheritance ('death thing')
9.	toǒ-han.i	cattle, domesticated animal ('stood thing')
10.	tú-han.i	vegetation

The Forms yaa and mà

The suffix yaa is attached to certain nouns by a hyphen. It adds the meaning -hood or -ness to the noun and the resultant form is a nominal. Most N3 nouns can take yaa as can other words that describe other states or occupations.

1.	ndopô-yaa	boyhood
2.	ndopô-wol.o-yaa	small boyhood
3.	ndakpâ-yaa	youth
4.	nyahâ-yaa	womanhood
5.	nyahâ-wol.o-yaa	girlhood
6.	fóningɛ-yaa	early adulthood
7.	kpako-yaa	adulthood
8.	hiîndo-yaa	manhood
9.	mahǎ-yaa	chiefhood
10.	kɛkɛ̌-yaa	fatherhood
11.	kênya-yaa	unclehood
12.	hinî-yaa	husbandhood
13.	nduwɔ̌-yaa	slavery
14.	lávale-yaa	speakerhood (for chief)
15.	kúgba-yaa	warriorhood
16.	kpékpe-yaa	goodness
17.	kpaw.ǒ-yaa	spouselessness
18.	kayemá-yaa	holiness
19.	fakǎ-yaa	laziness
20.	njolǎ-yaa	filthiness

The form mà is usually translated as 'place'. When attached to a single noun or verb, it is connected by a hyphen with the normal tonal interpretation. The use of mà obviates the need of a locative postposition to indicate place.

1.	ngengě-mɛ.í	working place
2.	jɛsîa-mɛ.í	walking place
3.	kpɛ́-mɛ.í	hunting place
4.	ngal.î-mɛ.í	blacksmith shop
5.	heǐ-mɛ.í	place to sit (it)
6.	hɛ̂-mɛ.í	praying place
7.	ndápi-mɛ.í	swimming place
8.	kayê-mɛ.í	place of confession
9.	toǒ-mɛ.í	position
10.	njiǐ-mɛ.í	sleeping place
11.	kaâ-mɛ.í	study, place of learning, school
12.	fel.ě-mɛ.í	market
13.	ndɔwû-mɛ.í	hiding place
14.	kpɛmbô-mɛ.í	court
15.	fɛl.ǐ-mɛ.í	begging place, 'bread line'

<u>Drill VIII.</u> Extract <u>mà</u> locatives from the following sentences.

1.	tâ.á`kulǎwámà	kulǎwámà laundry area
2.	tǎ`kulǎwá`l.ɔ́	kulǎwámà laundry area
3.	nyahɛ̂.î.àmɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.i`l.ɔ́	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imà kitchen, restaurant
4.	tǐ`pɛ́l.ɛlòǒn.ì`l.ɔ́	pɛ́l.ɛlòǒmà house building site
5.	tǎ`mbaǎvúka`l.ɔ́	mbaǎvúkamà rice pounding place
6.	tâ.á`ndɔɔ̌gbɔl.ǐmà	ndɔɔ̌gbɔl.ǐmà wine drinking place
7.	tɛ̌.ɛ̀kítiléw.e	kítiléw.emà court
8.	tǎ`ngúl.uwɔ́`l.ɔ́	ngúl.uwɔ́mà tree felling place
9.	.ìpâniwán.ì`l.ɔ́	pâniwámà dish washing place
10.	tǐ.ìmbaǎvúkan.ì	mbaǎvúkamà rice pounding place
11.	.ìnikɛ̌.îwaǎn.ì`l.ɔ́	nikǎwaǎmà place for beef butchery
12.	.ɛ̀mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.i	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imà food cooking place
13.	tǐ`hagběgbɛ́n.ì`l.ɔ́	hagběgbɛ́mà rabbit hunting place
14.	mǎ`hél.egbɛ́`l.ɔ́	hél.egbɛ́mà elephant hunting place
15.	tǎ`kɔlɔ̌gaâ`l.ɔ́	kɔl.ɔ̌gaâmà book reading place
16.	.ìngewɔ̂ɔvɛl.ǐn.ì	ngewɔ̂ɔvɛl.ǐmà church

Hindâ and yìi

Hindâ means 'business, affair, situation or matter'. It is combined with singular nouns or verbs by the use of the hyphen and loses its tone when following an object-verb complex. Study the following:

1.	ba.aba.a-hinda	foolish business
2.	baya-hinda	treacherous business
3.	hâkɛ-hinda	sinful thing
4.	kabânde-hinda	miraculous thing
5.	kuɛtɛ́-hinda	superstitious business
6.	makɛ̂-hinda	behavior
7.	ndomá-hinda	love affair
8.	ngufê-hinda	shameful thing
9.	pɔ́na-hinda	righteous matter
10.	pu-hinda	Englishman's business
11.	nɔɔ̂-hinda	this matter of insisting
12.	tému-hinda	apology business
13.	dɔmɛ́gbùǎhìnda	story telling matter
14.	bafaloǒhìnda	hut building business
15.	mɔtógbàtɛ̂hìnda	auto repair episode
16.	nyínawàǎhìnda	rat extermination business
17.	manîyátɛ́hìnda	matter of getting the traps set
18.	hél.egbɛ́hìnda	business about hunting elephants
19.	pɛ́l.ɛbugòl.ěhìnda	house cleaning matter
20.	kítiléw.ehìnda	question of making a decision
21.	mbaǎvâl.ihìnda	rice planting matter
22.	ngúl.uwɔ́hìnda	forestry business
23.	ndɛndɛ̌gbatɛ̂hìnda	boat making matter
24.	pâniwáhìnda	dish washing
25.	nikǎwaǎhìnda	matter of getting cows butchered

The form yìi means 'way to do something'. It occurs only after transitive verbs and is not connected by a hyphen. Typically, the verb is preceded by yeé, e.g. yeépé.eyìi.í 'the particular way of doing it'. There is no _̀ (from .ì) in these compounds. Yeé is the object replacing _̀ (from .ì) except when a noun object is expressed. Study the following:

1.	yeépé.eyìi.í	the way to do (it)
2.	yeékpàtɛ̂yìi.í	the way to make (it)
3.	yeémɛ̌yìi.í	the way to eat
4.	yeékpɔ̀l.ǐyìi.í	the way to drink
5.	yeékɔ̂l.iyìi.í	the way to select (it)
6.	yeépàǎyìi.í	the way to kill
7.	yeékùlǎhɔ́l.ɔyìi.í	how to sew cloth*
8.	yeémɔ̀tógbàtɛ̂yìi.í	the way to fix a car*
9.	yeéngúl.uwɔ́yìi.í	the way to chop trees
10.	yeébàfaloǒyìi.í	the way to build a hut*

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*Also 'thing' for performing the action.

11.	yeédɔ̀mɛ́gbùǎyìi.í	the way to tell a story
12.	yeényɛ́gbɛ́yìi.í	how to catch fish
13.	yeémànîyátɛ́yìi.í	how to set a trap
14.	yeépɛ́l.ɛbugòl.ěyìi.í	how to clean (the underneath of) a house*
15.	yeétàngǎhî.iyìi.í	how to plant cassava

Riddles

The following set of drills is designed to stimulate the production of the nominal forms introduced above. Much of the following is double-talk in both Mende and English. A secondary purpose is the introduction of a few question words.

The word for 'who' is *yemîa.á*. It is composed of *ye*, *mîa* and *l.ɔ́*. A better translation is 'who is it?' because *mîa* often has the meaning 'it is'. The sentence *yemîa.á`dɔmɛ́gbùǎmà* 'Who is it? (he) is telling a story.' can be answered with agentive nominals, *dɔmɛ́gbùǎmɔ̀.í* 'the story teller'.

Drill IX. Answer the following questions with agentive nominals.

1.	yemîa.á`dɔmɛ́gbùǎmà	dɔmɛ́gbùǎmɔ̀.í story teller
2.	yemîa.á`hagběgbɛ́mà	hagběgbɛ́mɔ̀.í rabbit hunter
3.	yemîa.á`bafaloǒmà	bafaloǒmɔ̀.í hut builder
4.	yemîa.á`ngúl.uwɔ́mà	ngúl.uwɔ́mɔ̀.í lumberjack
5.	yemîa.á`kulǎhɔ́l.ɔmà	kulǎhɔ́l.ɔmɔ̀.í seamstress
6.	yemîa.á`mɔtógbàtɛ̂mà	mɔtógbàtɛ̂mɔ̀.í mechanic
7.	yemîa.á`mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imà	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imɔ̀.í cook
8.	yemîa.á`ndɛ́.ɛgùlǎmà	ndɛ́.ɛgùlǎmɔ̀.í liar
9.	yemîa.á`nyɛ́gbɛ́mà	nyɛ́gbɛ́mɔ̀.í fisherman

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*Also 'thing' for performing the action.

10.	yemîa.á`manîyátɛ́mà	manîyátɛ́mɔ̀.í trapper
11.	yemîa.á`hél.egbɛ́mà	hél.egbɛ́mɔ̀.í elephant hunter
—— 12.	yemîa.á`kulǎvɛl.ɛ̌mà	kulǎvɛl.ɛ̌mɔ̀.í weaver
13.	yemîa.á`kítiléw.emà	kítiléw.emɔ̀.í judge

(When *yemîa.á* is used, *l.ɔ́* is omitted from sentences which otherwise contain it. *L.ɔ́* is already included in *yemîa.á* in the form of *.á*.)

14.	yemîa.á`dɔmɛ́gbùǎn.ì	dɔmɛ́gbùǎmɔ̀.í story teller
15.	yemîa.á`hagběgbɛ́n.ì	hagběgbɛ́mɔ̀.í rabbit hunter
16.	yemîa.á`pɛ́l.ɛlòǒn.ì	pɛ́l.ɛlòǒmɔ̀.í house builder
17.	yemîa.á`ngúl.uwɔ́n.ì	ngúl.uwɔ́mɔ̀.í lumberjack
18.	yemîa.á`mɔtógbàtɛ̂n.ì	mɔtógbàtɛ̂mɔ̀.í mechanic
19.	yemîa.á`kulɛ̌.îhɔ́l.ɔn.ì	kulɛ̌.îhɔ́l.ɔmɔ̀.í seamstress
20.	yemîa.á.ànyínawàǎ	nyínawàǎmɔ̀.í rat killer
21.	yemîa.á.àndɛ́.ɛgùlǎ	ndɛ́.ɛgùlǎmɔ̀.í liar
22.	yemîa.á`nyɛ́gbɛ́ng.a	nyɛ́gbɛ́mɔ̀.í fisherman
23.	yemîa.á`mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.ing.a	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imɔ̀.í cook
24.	yemîa.á`kítiléw.eng.a	kítiléw.emɔ̀.í judge
25.	yemîa.á`mbaǎvâl.ing.a	mbaǎvâl.imɔ̀.í rice sower

<u>Drill X.</u> <u>Gbɛ̂-mia.á</u> 'what?' or 'it is what?' is used to ask another type of question. The <u>l.ɔ́</u> is represented by <u>.á</u>. The exercise takes the following form:*

1.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìngúl.uwɔ́n.ìla kóni	ngúl.uwɔ́gòni forestry ax
2.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìpɛ́l.ɛlòǒn.ìla foni	pɛ́l.ɛlòǒvòni house building grass
3.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìndówán.ìla mbawâ	ndówábàwa baby soap
4.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìkulǎhɔ́l.ɔn.ìla miîji	kulǎhɔ́l.ɔmìiji sewing needle
5.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìpɛ́l.ɛlòǒn.ìla ngúl.u	pɛ́l.ɛlòǒwùl.u wood for house building
6.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìhél.egbɛ́n.ìla kpandɛ̂	hél.egbɛ́gbàndɛ elephant hunting gun
7.	gbɛ̂-mia.ángí`nikǎlew.ěn.ìla fóma	nikǎlew.ěvòma cow beating whip
8.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìmbaǎvúkan.ìla ngetɛ̂	mbaǎvúkayète rice pounding cane
9.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìmɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.in.ìla ngú.lɔ	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.iwù.lɔ cooking oil
10.	gbɛ̂-mia.ángí`ndopôlew.ěn.ìla mbalǔ	ndopôlew.ěbàlu boy disciplining cane

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*See Chapter Twenty-one, <u>Front-Shifted 'la' Objects</u> for explanation of tone.

The same type of exercise is good for drilling the han.ǐ compounds. Note the following examples:

gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìnúm.uwówùmbǔn.ìla	What is it? He took a person's voice with it?
núm.uwówùmbǔhàn.i	a thing for taking a person's voice
gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìˋfâl.in.ì	What is it? He sowed it?
fâl.i-han.i	a thing to sow
gbɛ̂-mia.á.ˋféngɔ̀	What is it? It is swollen?
fé-han.i	a swollen thing

Drill XI. Answer the following questions.

1.	gbɛ̂-mia.áˋféngɔ̀	fé-han.i swollen thing
2.	gbɛ̂-mia.áˋkpɔl.ǐngɔ̀	kpɔl.ǐ-han.i something to drink
3.	gbɛ̂-mia.áˋtoǒngɔ̀	toǒ-han.i cattle
4.	gbɛ̂-mia.áˋmɛ̌ngɔ̀	mɛ̌-han.i something to eat
5.	gbɛ̂-mia.áˋfúl.ungɔ̀	fúl.u-han.i living creature
6.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìˋfâl.ing.a	fâl.i-han.i something to sow
7.	gbɛ̂-mia.á.ìkɔlɔ̌gaâng.ala	kɔlɔ̌gaâhàn.i spectacles

Drill XII. The form mî-mia.á 'where' or better 'where is it' is collocated with nà,'there'in sentences like mî-mia.á.ìyengěng.anà 'Where is it?, he has worked there.' can be answered with mà sentences like ngengě-mɛ.í 'the work place'. Answer the following questions.

1.	mî-mia.á.ìyengěng.anà	ngengě-mɛ.í working place
2.	mî-mia.á.ìjɛsîang.anà	jɛsîa-mɛ.í walking place

3.	mî-mia.á.ì`kpɛ́ng.anà	kpɛ́-mɛ.í	hunting place
4.	mî-mia.á.ìheǐng.anà	heǐ-mɛ.í	place to sit
5.	mî-mia.á.ìláping.anà	ndápi-mɛ.í	swimming place
6.	mî-mia.á.ì`toǒng.anà	toǒ-mɛ.í	position
7.	mî-mia.á.ìyiǐng.anà	njiǐ-mɛ.í	sleeping place
8.	mî-mia.á.ì`kaâng.anà	kaâ-mɛ.í	study place
9.	mî-mia.á.ìkulǎwán.ìnà	kulǎwámɛ̀.í	laundry area
10.	mî-mia.á.ìmɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.in.ìnà	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imɛ̀.í	restaurant
11.	mî-mia.á.ìpɛ́l.ɛlòǒn.ìnà	pɛ́l.ɛlòǒmɛ̀.í	house building site
12.	mî-mia.á.ìmbaǎvúkan.ìnà	mbaǎvúkamɛ̀.í	rice pounding place
13.	mî-mia.á.ìndɔɔ̌gbɔl.ǐn.ìnà	ndɔɔ̌gbɔl.ǐmɛ̀.í	palm wine drinking place
14.	mî-mia.á.ìkítiléw.eng.anà	kítiléw.emɛ̀.í	court
15.	mî-mia.á.ìpâniwáng.anà	pâniwámɛ̀.í	dishwashing place
16.	mî-mia.á.ìmbaǎvúkan.ìnà	mbaǎvúkamɛ̀.í	rice pounding place
17.	mî-mia.á.ìnikǎwaǎn.ìnà	nikǎwaǎmɛ̀.í	butcher shop
18.	mî-mia.á.ìmɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.ing.anà	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imɛ̀.í	restaurant
19.	mî-mia.á.ìhagběgbɛ́ng.anà	hagběgbɛ́mɛ̀.í	a (good) place to hunt rabbits

20.	mî-mia.á.ìkɔlɔ̌gaâng.anà	kɔlɔ̌gaâmɛ̀.í a place to study

Drill XIII. To elicit -hinda forms, the question gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ 'what business is it?' is used.

1.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ ba.aba.a	ba.aba.a-hindal.ɔ́ foolish thing
2.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ baya	baya-hindal.ɔ́ overworked person
3.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ hâkɛ	hâkɛ-hindal.ɔ́ sinful business
4.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ kabânde	kabânde-hindal.ɔ́ miraculous thing
5.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ kuɛtɛ́	kuɛtɛ́-hindal.ɔ́ superstitious thing
6.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ makɛ̂	makɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ behavior
7.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ pɔ́na	pɔ́na-hindal.ɔ́ righteousness
8.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ pu	pu-hindal.ɔ́ what a white man does
9.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ nikǎwaǎ	nikǎwaǎhìndal.ɔ́ butcher business
10.	gbɛ̂-hindal.ɔ́ pâniwá	pâniwáhìndal.ɔ́ dishwashing business

Drill XIV. The question núm.u.àyeé`pé.e 'How does one do it?' or 'How will a person do it?' can be answered yeépé.eyìi.î`l.ɔ́ '(it will be done) the particular way of doing.' The future .à in combination with yeé makes a question out of the sentence. Answer the following questions. Notice that 'it' (` from .ì) is replaced by yeé in the answer.

1.	núm.u.àyeé`pé.e	yeépé.eyìi.î`l.ɔ́ the way to do it
2.	núm.u.àyeé`hɔ́l.ɔ	yeéhɔ́l.ɔyìi.î`l.ɔ́ the way to sew it
3.	núm.u.àyeé`kpatɛ̂	yeékpàtɛ̂yìi.î`l.ɔ́ the way to fix it
4.	núm.u.àyeé`kpɛ́	yeékpɛ́yìi.î`l.ɔ́ the way to chase it away
5.	núm.u.àyeétàngǎhî.i	yeétàngǎhî.iyìi.î`l.ɔ́ the way to plant cassava

The Form la: -ing

The equivalent to English -ing is la or lɛ.í (in the definite form). Tonally, la operates the same as the other suffixes in this chapter. It is attached to intransitive verbs by a hyphen, and is attached directly onto complexes consisting of object and verb and has low tone. Study these examples and those uses which appear in the narratives. Notice that la often gives the meaning of 'how to do' something.

1.	heǐ-la	sitting, how to sit
2.	toǒ-la	standing, how to stand
3.	góto-la	bending, how to bend
4.	higbɛ̌-la	being sick
5.	lápi-la	how to swim
6.	ndápiwé.elà	how to do swimming
7.	fɛlǐwé.elà	begging
8.	ndapǐgɔ́là	how to fight
9.	ndɛndɛ̌gbatɛ̂là	boat building
10.	`kpatɛ̂là	fixing (it)
11.	hálevélà	medicine giving
12.	hálegbùǎlà	gathering of medicinal herbs
13.	mbaǎléw.elà	rice cutting
14.	kɔ́gɔ́là	doing war
15.	mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.ilà	cooking
16.	njaǎgbɔlǐlà	water drinking

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

THE VERB 'to be', PART TWO

The present tense form of yɛ̀ is simply (̀), the past, future, perfect and imperative form is yɛ̀.

Simple Past	yɛ̀l.ɔ́	or	yɛ̀.il.ɔ́	or	yɛ̀.ɛ́
Perfect	yɛ̀ng.a	or	yɛ̀.a		
Future	à.yɛ̀l.ɔ́	or	.àyɛ̀.ɛ́		

The meaning of both the simple past and perfect forms is roughly 'was'. The future is most often reserved for the locative sentences, e.g. tɔmí.àyɛ̀.l.ɔ́béi 'Tommy will be here.' Thus far yɛ̀ has been used as the tense marker in present time sentences and as the main verb in locative sentences. In Chapter Ten, it was suggested that â could in some way represent a deleted yɛ̀ in sentences like nyáâ.ábéi 'I am here.' and that this yɛ̀ (â) with the .á (l.ɔ́) that follows makes the sentence affirmative. In addition it is suggested that another present tense yɛ̀ (simply ̀ or nothing) follows l.ɔ́ except when deleted before a pronoun or prolocative.

nyáâ.á` pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu 'I am in the house.'

nyáâ.ábéi 'I am here.'

from (1) (3)
nyá (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ (yɛ̀) pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu

and (2) (4)
nyá (yɛ̀) l.ɔ́ ((yɛ̀)) béi

Yɛ̀ number 1 and 2 are replaced by â after pronouns and totally deleted after anything else.

tɔmíl.ɔ́` pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	Tommy is here.

It is always the first yɛ̀ in a sentence that carries any tense marker. Thus when (yɛ̀)l.ɔ́ is shifted to the end of a sentence (or to the beginning of a sentence), the first yɛ̀ shows the tense.

ngí` pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu`l.ɔ́	I am in the house.
ngíyɛ̀pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu`l.ɔ́	I was in the house.
ngíyɛ̀l.ɔ́` pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	I was in the house.

The past tense of present time sentences has the meaning 'was just about to' or 'was on the verge of ____'. The construction seems to retain its semantic nature as a type of locative. Study the following.

.ìyɛ̀l.ɔ́`ngéyamà	He was about to buy it.
.ìyɛ̀l.ɔ́`haǎma	He was about to die.
.ìyɛ̀`ngéyamà`l.ɔ́	He was about to buy it.
.ìyɛ̀haǎma`l.ɔ́	He was about to die.

In the past tense of yɛ̀ there is no deletion of yɛ̀ or (`) before pronouns.

There is a third application of yɛ̀ in sentences that link two Noun Phrases.

nyákênyayɛ̀l.ɔ́.àkêna-wova	'My uncle was an old man.'

Noun Phrase, yɛ̀(l.ɔ́), .à, Noun Phrase is the structure. The verb potɛ̂ 'turn into, become' is used in place of yɛ̀ in this construction by many speakers.

One use of yɛ̀ in the present tense that is not reflected in any of the other tenses is when it occurs with l.ɔ́ at the end of a simple, non-complex sentence. Yɛ̀ in this usage emphasizes the affirmative nature of the verb. Often the difference between affirmative and negative is shown only through the use of (yɛ̀)l.ɔ́.

.ì`pé.en.ì`l.ɔ́	He did it.
.ì`pé.en.ì	He did not do it.

There is no l.ɔ́ in negative sentences.

.ɛ̀gíl.i	He will not think.
.ìgìl.in.ì	He did not think.
.ìgíl.ima	He is not thinking.

An important shift is found with locative and present time sentences. In fact, since it is far more common, the 'shifted' form was introduced first. The 'original' form uses the prime pronouns, ngí, bí, .ì, mǔ, wǔ and tǐ with (yɛ̀) expressed as explained before. Compare (as above) tɔmíl.ɔ́béi and tɔmíbéi`l.ɔ́ and the following:

bíâ.á`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	You are in the house.
bí`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu`l.ɔ́	You are in the house.

Drill I. Shift l.ɔ́ to the end of the sentence in the following locative sentences.

1. tɔmíl.ɔ́béi	tɔmíbéi`l.ɔ́ Tommy is here.

2.	tâ.ábéi	.ìbéi`l.ɔ́ He is here.
3.	bíâ.á`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	bí`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu`l.ɔ́ You are in the house.
4.	músal.ɔ́`fulɛ.îhu	músa`fulɛ.îhu`l.ɔ́ Musa is in the village.
5.	tâ.á`kɔl.ɛ̌.îbu	.ì`kɔl.ɛ̌.îbu`l.ɔ́ It is under the book.
6.	bíâ.á`mɔtó.îhu	bí`mɔtó.îhu`l.ɔ́ You are in the car.
7.	mǔâ.á`pɛ́l.ɛ.îla	mǔ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îla`l.ɔ́ We are at the door of the house.
8.	tâ.á`fɛɛ̌.ínâbu	.ì`fɛɛ̌.ínâbu`l.ɔ́ It is under that pot.
9.	tǐâ.á`ngál.ɛ.îma	tǐ`ngál.ɛ.îma`l.ɔ́ They are under the mat.
10.	bíâ.ányáwôoma	bínyáwôoma`l.ɔ́ You are behind me.
11.	tǐâ.ányámàhú	tínyámàhú`l.ɔ́ They are above me.
12.	tâ.ángǐyêya	.ìngǐyêya`l.ɔ́ It is mine.
13.	fáji.îl.ɔ́béi	fáji.íbéi`l.ɔ́ The bucket is here.
14.	yeébɔ̀ndɛ́.íjîl.ɔ́béi	yeébɔ̀ndɛ́.íjíbéi`l.ɔ́ This okra is here.
15.	ngǐ-lavɛ.îl.ɔ́nà	ngǐ-lavɛ.înà`l.ɔ́ His pipe is there.
16.	ngǐ-lomɛ.îl.ɔ́`ndól.i.îma	ngǐ-lomɛ.î`ndól.i.îma`l.ɔ́ His shirt is on the hook.
17.	bî-hotɛ.îl.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	bî-hotɛ.î`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu`l.ɔ́ Your guest is in the house.
18.	mǔâ.á`mbɛtɛ̌.îbu	mǔ`mbɛtɛ̌.îbu`l.ɔ́ We are under the watch tower.

19.	pujɛ.îl.ɔ́nà	pujɛ.înàˋl.ɔ́ The pepper is there.
20.	nyáâ.átǐgu.lɔ́	ngítǐgu.lɔ́ˋl.ɔ́ I am in front of them.

Drill II. Shift l.ɔ́ to the end of these present time sentences.

1.	bíâ.áˋlǐma	bíˋlǐmaˋl.ɔ́ You are falling.
2.	tǐâ.áˋwǎma	tǐˋwǎmaˋl.ɔ́ They are coming.
3.	mǔâ.áˋgíl.ima	mǔˋgíl.imaˋl.ɔ́ We are thinking.
4.	nyáâ.áˋhaǎma	ngíˋhaǎmaˋl.ɔ́ I am dying.
5.	tǐâ.áˋgulǎma	tǐˋgulǎmaˋl.ɔ́ They are falling.
6.	nyahɛ̂.îl.ɔ́ˋgíl.ima	nyahɛ̂.îˋgíl.imaˋl.ɔ́ The woman is thinking.
7.	nikɛ̌.î-gul.i.îl.ɔ́ˋgulǎma	nikɛ̌.î-gul.i.îˋgulǎmaˋl.ɔ́ The cow shed is falling.
8.	núm.u.ínâl.ɔ́ˋwǎma	núm.u.ínâˋwǎmaˋl.ɔ́ That person is coming.
9.	tâ.áˋhitǐma	.ìˋhitǐmaˋl.ɔ́ It is ripening.
10.	mbɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́ˋgbɔvɔ̂ma	mbɛɛ̌.îˋgbɔvɔ̂maˋl.ɔ́ The rice is becoming healthy.
11.	tâ.áˋmbɛɛ̌.îvâl.imà	.ìˋmbɛɛ̌.îvâl.imàˋl.ɔ́ He is sowing the rice.
12.	tâ.áˋmbaǎvúkamà	.ìˋmbaǎvúkamàˋl.ɔ́ She is grinding rice.
13.	tǐâ.áˋgbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂mà	tǐˋgbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂màˋl.ɔ́ They are repairing the chair.
14.	nyáâ.áˋpɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒmà	ngíˋpɛ́l.ɛ.îloǒmàˋl.ɔ́ I am building the house.

15.	wǔâ.átǐwaǎmà	wútǐwaǎmà`l.ɔ́ We are killing them.
16.	nyâpo.îl.ɔ́ngǐlew.ěmà	nyâpo.íngǐlew.ěmà`l.ɔ́ The woman is beating him.
17.	ndó.îl.ɔ́tǐyéyamà	ndó.ítǐyéyamà`l.ɔ́ The child is buying them.
18.	kamɔ́.îl.ɔ́bígbêmà	kamɔ́.íbígbêmà`l.ɔ́ The teacher is looking at you.
19.	mahɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`kalǐ.îwaǎmà	mahɛ̌.î`kalǐ.îwaǎmà`l.ɔ́ The chief is killing the snake.
20.	tâ.ányágɔ̂l.imà	.ìnyágɔ̂l.imà`l.ɔ́ He is choosing me.

Drill III. Change these locative and present time sentences into the past tense.

1.	tâ.á`haǎma	.ìyɛ̀l.ɔ́`haǎma He was about to die.
2.	bíâ.á`gulǎma	bíyɛ̀l.ɔ́`gulǎma You were about to fall.
3.	núm.u.ínâl.ɔ́`wǎma	núm.u.ínâyɛ̀l.ɔ́`wǎma That person was about to come.
4.	tâ.á`gíl.ima	.ìyɛ̀l.ɔ́`gíl.ima He was about to think.
5.	tangɛ̌.îl.ɔ́`gbakpǎma	tangɛ̌.îyɛ̀l.ɔ́`gbakpǎma The cassava was about to become woody.
6.	tâ.á`mbɛɛ̌.îvúkamà	.ìyɛ̀l.ɔ́`mbɛɛ̌.îvúkamà She was about to grind rice.
7.	tǐâ.á`nyɛ́.îgbɛ́mà	tǐyɛ̀l.ɔ́`nyɛ́.îgbɛ́mà They were about to fish.
8.	nyáâ.á`ngúl.i.îwɔ́mà	ngíyɛ̀l.ɔ́`ngúl.i.îwɔ́mà I was about to fell the tree.
9.	mǔâ.á`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	mǔyɛ̀l.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu We were in the house.
10.	tǐâ.ábéi	tǐyɛ̀l.ɔ́béi They were here.

11.	tâ.ábíwùmbá	.ìyɛ̀l.ɔ́bíwùmbá He was above you.
12.	nyáâ.átǐgù.lɔ́	ngíyɛ̀l.ɔ́tǐgù.lɔ́ I was in front of them.
13.	kpandɛ̂.îl.ɔ́`kulɛ̌.íjîbu	kpandɛ̂.îyɛ̀l.ɔ́`kulɛ̌.íjîbu The gun was under this cloth.
14.	ngú.lɛ.îl.ɔ́`sani.îgohú	ngú.lɛ.îyɛ̀l.ɔ́`san.îgohú The oil was in the bottle.

The past tense of yɛ̀,negative form,can be made with n.ì and the past tense marker .ì, ngí.ìyɛ̀n.ìtǐgù.lɔ́ 'I was not in front of them.', but the n.ì is nearly always completely deleted.

Drill IV. Make the following sentences negative.

1.	mǔyɛ̀l.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	mǔ.ìyɛ̀pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu We were not in the house.
2.	tǐyɛ̀l.ɔ́nyáyêya	tǐ.ìyɛ̀nyáyêya They were not mine.
3.	ngíyɛ̀l.ɔ́`núm.u.íjîwôoma	ngí.ìyɛ̀núm.u.íjîwôoma I was not behind that person.
4.	bíyɛ̀l.ɔ́béi	bí.ìyɛ̀béi You were not there.
5.	ndomɛ̌.îyɛ̀l.ɔ́`ndól.i.îma	ndomɛ̌.î.ìyɛ̀ndól.i.îma The shirt was not on the hook.

Wherever yɛ is deleted from yɛ̀ in present tense phrases, the past form yɛ̀ can be used.

tǐyɛ̀fel.é	There were two of them.
mǔyɛ̀lɔ́.ɔ̂lu	There were five of us.

The future of yɛ̀, affirmative and negative, are formed as follows:

tɔmí.àyɛ̀l.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	Tommy will be in the house.
tɔmí.ɛ̀yɛ̀pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	Tommy will not be in the house.

<u>Drill V.</u> Make the following sentences future.

1. tɔmíl.ɔ́` pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu
tɔmí.àyɛ̀l.ɔ́` pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu
Tommy will be in a house.

2. núm.u.ínâl.ɔ́` wǎma
núm.u.ínâ.àyɛ̀l.ɔ́` wǎma
That person will be coming.

3. mbɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́` lúlama
mbɛɛ̌.î.àyɛ̀l.ɔ́` lúlama
The rice will be rotting.

4. hiîndo.îsiàtǐ́â.á` ngúl.i.îléw.emà
hiîndo.îsiàtǎ` yɛ̀l.ɔ́` ngúl.i.îléw.emà
The men will be cutting the tree.

5. tâ.á` pé.emà
.àyɛ̀l.ɔ́` pé.emà
He will be doing it.

CHAPTER NINETEEN

NON-LOCATIVE PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

In sentences like tɔmíl.ɔ́` pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu and tɔmíl.ɔ́nyâ-wɛl.ɛ.îbu, the locative phrase can be replaced by a prolocative, nà or béi. However, in the sentence tâ.á` gbɔ́mangǐma, 'He is helping him.', ngǐma cannot be replaced by a prolocative. Verbs of the type that can have these postpositional phrases can be transitive or intransitive. Actually, it is possible in many cases to see a locational connection between the verb and the postpositional phrase such as 'to help on' for gbɔ́ngǐma. However, there is a subtle semantic difference between postpositional phrases that specify locations and these non-locative postpositional phrases. Although the general meaning is different, the tonal rules and presence or absence of _̀, (yɛ̀) is exactly the same.

tɔmí.ɛ̀gbitinyáma	Tommy will not touch me.
.ɛ̀yakǎ` pɛ́l.ɛ.îma	He will not miss the house.
.ɛ̀yakányáma	He will not miss me.

Notice in yaká, the ǎ changes to á in this transcription as a reminder that the tone of ǎ was determined by a following _̀ (from yɛ̀), before _̀ was deleted before a personal pronoun.

There are two major forms that follow transitive or intransitive verbs in this construction: ma and la. It is interesting to note that many of these meanings are expressed exclusively by transitive verbs in English. Fa and wɛ are also used in this manner.

Drill I. Form sentences from the following sentence parts. New verbs are underscored; consult the lexicon for the meaning.

1. tâ.á
   fal.ama
   pɛ́l.ɛ.í
   ma
   tâ.á` val.ama` pɛ́l.ɛ.îma
   He is on the verge of leaning on the house.

2. .ɛ̀
   kâvɛ.í
   pɛl.ɛ
   nyá
   ma
   .ɛ̀kâvɛ.îwɛl.ɛnyáma
   He will not blame the evil on me.

3. .à
kakǎ*
pelě.í
ma

.àyakǎ`l.ɔ́`pelě.îma
He will miss the road.

4. tǐ.ì
kpɔ́ma
nyá
ma

tǐ.ìgbɔ́manyáma
They are not helping me.

5. .ì
jasín.i
nyá
ma

.ìjasín.i`l.ɔ́nyáma
He snubbed me.

6. tɛ̌.ɛ̀
ϕ
fôo
ngǐ
ma

tɛ̌.ɛ̀`fôongǐma
They will not shine it on him.

7. kênayékpe.î.à
kayê
kâvɛ.í
la

kênayékpe.î.àgayâ`l.ɔ́.àkâvɛ.í
The good man will confess the evil.

8. tǐ.ì
ϕ
pɛl.ɛn.ì
bí
ma

tǐ.ì`pɛl.ɛn.ìbíma
They did not blame it on you.

9. .ɛ̀
ngufê
ϕ
ma

.ɛ̀wufê`ma
She will not be ashamed of it.

10. nyâpo-wovɛ.î.à
ndíle
bí
ma

nyâpo-wovɛ.î.àlíle`l.ɔ́bíma
The old woman will get angry at you.

11. bíâ.á
ngamǎma
fɛɛ̌
la

bíâ.á`yamǎma.àfɛɛ̌
You are bringing back a pot.

---

*k mutates to y.

12. mǎ`
ngǐ
témù
ø
fa
mángǐlému`l.ɔ́`fa
We will apologize to him for it.

13. .ì
nɔɔ̂n.i
ø
ma
.ìnɔɔ̂n.i`l.ɔ́`ma
He insisted on it.

14. músa.à
ndǐ
ndomɛ̌.í
la
músa.àlǐ`l.ɔ́.àndomɛ̌.í
Musa will take the shirt away.

15. .ì
ndón.i
pɛ́l.ɛ-ninɛ.í
la
.ìlón.i`l.ɔ́.àpɛ́l.ɛ-ninɛ.í
She wanted a new house.

16. tǐ.ì
ngɛ́l.ɛma
bí
la
tǐ.ìyɛ́l.ɛma.àbíe
They are not laughing at you.

17. tǐ`
kênɛ.í
hoǐn.ì
mahɛ̌.í
la
tǐ`kênɛ.îhoǐn.ì`l.ɔ́.àmahɛ̌.í
They elected the man chief.

18. ngá`
hengâ
bí
la
ngá`hengâ`l.ɔ́.àbíe
I will dream of you.

19. tâ.á
njɛpɛ̌ma
ngǐ-mɔto.í
la
tâ.á`yɛpɛ̌ma.àngǐ-mɔto.í
He is complaining about his car.

20. tǎ`
pǎ
bûku.í
la
tǎ`wǎ`l.ɔ́.àbûku.í
They will bring the book.

21. .ɛ̀
wôl.ó
nyá
ma
.ɛ̀wôl.ónyáma
She will not listen to me.

22. tǐ`
ngamǎn.i
kpúnyɛ.í
la
tǐ`yamǎn.i`l.ɔ́.àkpúnyɛ.í
They returned with the charcoal.

23. tɛ̌.ɛ̀
nyákênya
hoǐ
mahɛ̌.í
la
tɛ̌.ɛ̀nyákênyahoǐ.àmahɛ̌.í
They will not elect my uncle chief.

24. tɔmí.à
hengâ
nɛsí
la
tɔmí.àhengâ`l.ɔ́.ànɛsí
Tommy will dream about Nesi.

25. kúgbɛ.îl.ɔ́
ndapǐma
ngǐ
la
kúgbɛ.îl.ɔ́`lapǐma.àngǐe
The warrior is fighting with him.

26. ngí.ì
ndó n.ì
∅
la
ngí.ìlòn.ì`la
I did not want it.

27. .ì
kulǎng.a
jɛmɛtɛ
la
.ìgulǎng.a.àjɛmɛtɛ
It has turned into a big thing.

28. bá`
∅
pɛl.ɛ
nyá
ma
bá`pɛl.ɛ`l.ɔ́nyáma
You will blame it on me.

29. tǐ.ì
jasí n.ì
músa
ma
tǐ.ìjàsin.ìmúsama
They did not snub Musa.

30. mǎ`
∅
fôo
bí
ma
mǎ`fôo`l.ɔ́bíma
We will shine it on you.

31. ngɛ́.ɛ̀
kayê
bí-gama
ngɛ́.ɛ̀gayêbí-gama
I will not confess to you.

32. bíâ.á
∅
pɛl.ɛma
nyá
ma
bíâ.á`pɛl.ɛmanyáma
You are blaming it on me.

33. wǔâ.a
ngɛ́l.ɛma
ngí
la
wǔâ.á`yɛ́l.ɛma.àngé
You (pl.) are laughing at me.

34. ngí
hengân.i
mɔtó-nina
la
ngí`hengân.i`l.ɔ́.àmɔtó-nina
I dreamed of a new car.

35. tǐ`
kênɛ.í
hoǐn.ì
kɔ́l.igbɛ́mɔ̀.í
la
tǐ`kênɛ.îhoǐn.ì`l.ɔ́.àkɔ́ligbɛ́mɔ̀.í
They appointed the man leopard hunter.

36. .à
ndapǐ
bí
la
.àlapǐ`l.ɔ́.àbíe
He will fight you.

37. bí.ì
ngamǎma
la
bí.ìyamǎma`la
You are not returning with it.

38. hiîndo.í
ndó
ngɔ̀
bûku.í
la
hiîndo.îlóngɔ̀.àbûku.í
The man wants a book.

39. kamɔ́.î.à
ngufê
bí
ma
kamɔ́.í.àwufê`l.ɔ́bíma
The teacher will be ashamed of you.

40. tǎ`
nɔɔ̂
ϕ
ma
tǎ`nɔɔ̂`l.ɔ́`ma
They will insist on it.

The forms wɛ 'for', (out of friendship, out of a sense of duty or responsibility) and fâ (`fa) 'for', (on behalf of, in place of), can be used after most verbs with semantic limitations. Most such limitations are apparent to speakers of English and only a few wɛ and fa potentials are marked in the lexicon. Verbs that take ma and la are so marked in the lexicon.

Many of the verbs that take ma can be changed to noun compounds by changing the tone of the verb to low and the tone of ma to high, resulting in forms like kpɔmá 'helping' and jasimá 'snubbing'. These nominals can be attached to words like hindâ with a hyphen, resulting in forms like kpɔmá-hinda 'the business of helping'.

Adverbs of Place

The previously introduced locative sentences can be combined with other sentences in such a way as to become locative phrases or adverbs of place.

músal.ɔ́`ngál.ɛ.îgbatêmà	Musa is making a mat.
músal.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	Musa is in the house.

when combined:

músal.ɔ́`ngál.ɛ.îgbatêmà`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu
Musa is making a mat in the house.

or músal.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu`ngál.ɛ.îgbatêmà
Musa is in the house making a mat.

Either the first or second version is correct but the first is more common.

The part of the locative sentence that is attached to the other sentence can begin with `. This ` is from yɛ̀ and is subject to the tonal alterations of ` before pronouns or prolocatives, and ` after polarized vowels. (See Chapters Ten and Twelve.) In sequence of v̌`Pro, (polarized vowel, downstep, pronoun or prolocative) the tone mark on the vowel becomes ´, (high), and the ` is deleted. A ` is deleted any time it occurs before a pronoun or prolocative regardless of the tone of the vowel that precedes the `.

ngɛ́.ɛ̀` ndew.ɛ̌	I will not beat it.
ngɛ́.ɛ̀yɛ̀béi	I will not be here.

combined:

ngɛ́.ɛ̀` ndew.ébéi (¯ _ _ ¯ ¯→)	I will not beat it here.

Drill II. Combine these sentences.

1.	kɔ́li.î` haǎng.a kɔ́li.îl.ɔ́` ndɔgbɔ̌.îhu	kɔ́li.î` haǎng.a` ndɔgbɔ̌.îhu The leopard has died in the forest.
2.	mbɛɛ̌.î` lúlang.a mbɛɛ̌.îl.ɔ́` fɛɛ̌.îhu	mbɛɛ̌.î` lúlang.a` fɛɛ̌.îhu The rice has rotted in the pot.
3.	.ì` paǎng.a tâ.ánà	.ì` paǎng.anà He killed it there.
4.	.ìngǐmuân.ì` l.ɔ́ .ìyɛ̀l.ɔ́` njɛɛ̌.îhu	.ìngǐmuân.ì` l.ɔ́` njɛɛ̌.îhu She bathed him in the river.
5.	nɛsí.ì` hɔ́l.ɔng.a nɛsíl.ɔ́` pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	nɛsí.ì` hɔ́l.ɔng.ɔ` pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu Nesi sewed it in the house.
6.	bítǐyéyan.ì` l.ɔ́ tǐâ.á` fulɛ.îhu	bítǐyéyan.ì` l.ɔ́` fulɛ.îhu They bought them in the village.
7.	.ìnyábôn.ì` l.ɔ́ ngíyɛ̀l.ɔ́` ndɔɔ̌gbɔl.ǐmà	.ìnyábôn.ì` l.ɔ́` ndɔɔ̌gbɔl.ǐmà He shot at me at a wine-drinking place.
8.	mútǐgbatɛ̂n.ì` l.ɔ́ tǐyɛ̀l.ɔ́` pɛ́l.ɛlòǒmà	mútǐgbatɛ̂n.ì` l.ɔ́` pɛ́l.ɛlòǒmà We fixed them at a house building site.
9.	njal.ɛ̌.î.àhaǎ` l.ɔ́ njal.ɛ̌.îl.ɔ́` ndɔgbɔ̌.îhu	njal.ɛ̌.î.àhaǎ` l.ɔ́` ndɔgbɔ̌.îhu The leopard will die in the forest.
10.	tǎ` fisǎ` l.ɔ́ tǐâ.á` hále-wɛl.ɛ.îbu	tǎ` fisǎ` l.ɔ́` hále-wɛl.ɛ.îbu They will get better in the hospital.

Pre-Verb Locatives

There is one more major use for a few of the locative postpositions. *Ma* (in the form *maǎ*), *hu* (in the form *hǔ*) and occasionally *ngá*, *mahú* and *nduahú* can occur as a prefix on some verbs. All but *ngá* cause consonant mutation in the verb stem and *ngá* and *nduahú* are subject to consonant mutation themselves. These forms are verbal prefixes, not postpositions.

1.	tɛ́.îmaǎgbuǎngɔ̀	The chicken is plucked.
2.	fɛɛ̌.îhǔgijɛ̂ngɔ̀	The pot is scrubbed inside.
3.	manî.îyátɛ́ngɔ̀	The snare is set.
4.	ndó.îmahúgbêngɔ̀	The child is watched over.
5.	mbɛɛ̌.îluahúgɔ̀lɛ̌ngɔ̀	The rice is separated.

In #1, the tone of the *maǎ* is (▁▔) because a low follows on *u* in *gbuǎ*. The *kp* has become *gb*. In #2, *hǔ* is high because of the low that follows and downstepped from the preceding *.î*. If *hǔ* were a locative postposition, it would be low, having gotten its tone from *.î*. In #3, *ndá* has become *yá* and the *t* of *tɛ́* has not mutated.

Of these five locatives, *hǔ* and *ngá* are also nouns and there is some possibility of ambiguity. For instance, it is possible to talk about *njɛɛ̌.îhu*, 'inside the water' or 'the water's insides'. One does not normally stir (*hǔtí*) the full form, *njɛɛ̌.îhu*. In a single sentence, one *hu* is enough. Forms such as *hákpɛ.îhu-mia, `hú, `hǔtíngɔ̀* 'The sauce is stirred.', are composed of three parts: 'It's the inside of the sauce, it's insides, it is stirred.' The form *tí* meaning 'stir' only occurs with *hǔ*, so it is the suffix *hu* that is not used. Such verbs are marked *hob* and *mob*, and must take *hǔ* or *maǎ*. Another example is with *mbé.la* 'to tear apart'.

1.	sámbɛ.îhu, `mbé.la!	The basket's interior, tear it apart!
2.	sámbɛ.í, `hǔbé.la!	The basket, tear it apart inside!

In the exercises that follow, some of the semantic peculiarities of pre-verb locatives will become apparent if the student will consult the lexicon frequently and study the sentences and their meanings.

Drill III. Make sentences out of the following forms. Remember that all words are listed in the lexicon in the unmutated form.

1.	ngá` ndolǐ-mɔ.í maǎpawa	ngá`ndolǐ-mɔ.îmaǎpawa`l.ɔ́ I will pay the dancer.
2.	tǐâ.á pɛ́l.ɛ.í hǔjɔkɔ̂mà	tǐâ.á`pɛ́l.ɛ.îhǔjɔkɔ̂mà They are thatching the house.

3.	tâ.á ngengě.î maǎjɔɔ̌mà	tâ.á`ngengě.îmaǎjɔɔ̌mà He is getting a job.
4.	ngɛ́.ɛ̀ sámbɛ.í hǔbé.la	ngɛ́.ɛ̀sámbɛ.îhǔbé.la I will not tear up the basket.
5.	ngǐ maǎmanǔ ngɔ̀	ngǐmaǎmanǔngɔ̀ He is sorrowful.
6.	.ì pɛ́l.ɛ.î hǔbɔ́ng.a	.ìpɛ́l.ɛ.îhǔbɔ́ng.a He has broken through the roof of the house.
7.	tǎ` taǎ-mɔ.í ngángɔ̌l.i	tǎ`taǎ-mɔ.îyángɔ̌l.i`l.ɔ́ They will fine the citizen.
8.	tǐ` ngúl.i.í hǔgɛnyɛ̂n.ì	tǐ`ngúl.i.îhǔgɛnyɛ̂n.ì`l.ɔ́ They marked the tree.
9.	tâ.á fɛɛ̌.í hǔgijɛ̂mà	tâ.á`fɛɛ̌.îhǔgijɛ̂mà She is scrubbing the inside of the pot.
10.	.ì pâni.í hǔgol.ěng.a	.ìpâni.îhǔgolěng.a She has cleaned inside the pan.
11.	.à pɛ́l.ɛ.í maǎgol.ě	.àpɛ́l.ɛ.îmaǎgol.ě`l.ɔ́ She will clean (at) the house.
12.	.ì ndopô.í maǎgol.ěn.ì	.ìndopô.îmaǎgol.ěn.ì`l.ɔ́ She whitened the boy. (by making him different for the purpose of shaming him).
13.	.ì njɛɛ̌.î maǎgónang.a	.ìnjɛɛ̌.îmaǎgónang.a He has reported on the water. (announced that it is ready to bathe in, cook in, etc.)

14. mǎ`
navó.í
nduahúgɔ̀lɛ̌ — mǎ`navó.îluahúgɔ̀lɛ̌`l.ɔ́
We will divide the money.

15. tǐ.ì
pɛ́l.ɛ.í
maǎgbatɛ̂mà — tǐ.ìpɛ́l.ɛ.îmaǎgbatɛ̂mà
They are not repairing the house.

16. pu-mɔ.î.ɛ̀
ngǐ-gbɔkɔ.í
hǔgbatɛ̂ — pu-mɔ.î.ɛ̀ngǐ-gbɔkɔ.îhǔgbatɛ̂
The white man will not make his bed.

17. tâ.á
ngengě.í
hǔwúmà — tâ.á`ngengě.îhǔwúmà
He is confusing the work.

18. ngǐ
maǎgbé.e
ngɔ̀ — ngǐmaǎgbé.engɔ̀
He is busy.

Drill IV. Form sentences out of the following lexical primes. Prefixes have been separated from the verbs.

1. ndó.îsiàtǐâ.á
sî.í
hǔ
kpɛlǐmà — ndó.îsiàtǐâ.á`sî.îhǔgbɛlǐmà
The children are spinning the top.

2. .ɛ̀
sâlo.í
hǔ
kpɔndâ — .ɛ̀sâlo.îhǔgbɔndâ
She will not squeeze the orange.

3. .ì
ndówɛ.í
maǎ
kpɔw.ǔng.a — .ìndówɛ.îmaǎgbɔw.ǔng.a
He has covered up the hole.

4. kɛ́nyɛ-mɔ.î.ɛ̀
njɛpɛ̌.í
hǔ
mɛn.ǐ — kɛ́nyɛ-mɔ.î.ɛ̀njɛpɛ̌.îhǔmɛn.ǐ
The foreigner will not pay attention to what is being said.

5. .ɛ̀
ø
ngá
níkpɔ — .ɛ̀`ngáníkpɔ
He will not scrub it.

6. nyâpo.î.ɛ̀
bâ.á
maǎ
njeǐ
nyâpo.î.ɛ̀bâ.âmaǎyeǐ
The woman will not reduce the price.

7. kênɛ.îl.ɔ́
kɔlɛ̌.í
hǔ
nyɛîmà
kênɛ.îl.ɔ́`kɔlɛ̌.îhǔnyɛîmà
The man is writing (into paper).

8. .ɛ̀
kpalɛ̂.í
hǔ
nyɔ́
.ɛ̀kpalɛ̂.îhǔnyɔ́
He will not repay the pain, damage, hardship.

9. ndó.îl.ɔ́
mbɛɛ̌.í
hǔ
nyúmamà
ndó.îl.ɔ́`mbɛɛ̌.îhǔnyúmamà
The child is chewing the rice.

10. músal.ɔ́
njɛpɛ̌.í
hǔ
nyúmamà
músal.ɔ́`njɛpɛ̌.îhǔnyúmamà
Musa is 'beating around the bush' (just chewing words).

11. nyahɛ̂.î.à
ndopô.í
maǎ
mbalî
nyahɛ̂.î.àndopô.îmaǎbalî`l.ɔ́
The wife will stop the child.

12. nyâpo.î`
kulɛ̌.í
hǔ
fáyan.ì
nyâpo.î` kulɛ̌.îhǔváyan.ì`l.ɔ́
The woman spread the cloth.

13. ndopô.í.à
ndavúlɛ.í
hǔ
vívi-vivi
ndopô.í.àndavúlɛ.îhǔvívi-vivi`l.ɔ́
The boy will swing the sling.

14. músa.à
kulǎ-lɛl.i.í
hǔ
fogbâ
músa.àkulǎ-lɛl.i.îhǔvogbâ`l.ɔ́
Musa will beat (dust) the dyed cloth.

15. .ɛ̀
ngǐ-yenge.í
maǎ
fúla
.ɛ̀ngǐ-yenge.îmaǎvúla
He won't speed up his work.

16. nyâpo-nyamu.í`
mbɛɛ̌.í
hǔ
fúkang.a
nyâpo-nyamu.î`mbɛɛ̌.î`hǔvúkang.a
The bad woman has ground the rice.

17. .ɛ̀
mbɛɛ̌.íná
ngá
fɛ́
.ɛ̀mbɛɛ̌.ínâyárɛ́
She will not winnow that rice.

18. tâ.á
njoyô.í
maǎ
fúlomà
tâ.á`njoyô.îmaǎvúlomà
He is unwrapping the gift.

19. tâ.á
nyâpo.í
maǎ
fúlomà
tâ.á`nyâpo.îmaǎvúlomà
She is delivering the woman (of a child).

20. tǐâ.á
ndɔgbɔ̌.í
hǔ
hágamà
tǐá.á`ndɔgbɔ̌.îhǔhágamà
They are clearing the forest (for a farm).

21. nyahɛ̂.ínâ.ɛ̀
kulɛ̌.í
hǔ
hɔ́l.ɔ
nyahɛ̂.ínâ.ɛ̀kulɛ̌.îhǔhɔ́l.ɔ
That wife will not sew the cloth.

22. hiîndo.îsiàtǎ`
nyâ-wɛl.ɛ.í
maǎ
hɔw.ɔ̂
hiîndo.îsiàtányâ-wɛl.ɛ.îmaǎhɔw.ɔ̂`l.ɔ́
The men will plaster my house.

23. tâ.á
mahɛ̌.í
maǎ
nɛnɛ̂mà
tâ.á`mahɛ̌.îmaǎnɛnɛ̂mà
He is pleading with the chief.

24. tɛ̌.ɛ̀
njɛɛ̌.í
hǔ
ngúl.i
tɛ̌.ɛ̀njɛɛ̌.îhǔwúl.i
They will not paddle the boat.

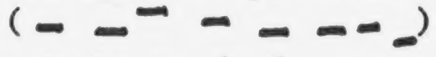
25. ndopô.ínâl.ɔ́
sâlo
hǔ
fɔ́nyamà
ndopô.ínâl.ɔ́`sâlohǔvɔ́nyamà
That boy is squeezing an orange.

'Motion Toward' Verbs

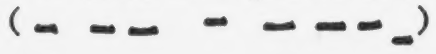
This important locative construction causes a change in the tone of the verb. Verbs that have the potential of operating in this construction are marked il in the lexicon. In most cases, one can easily tell from the meaning of the verb whether or not it has an il potential, but some verbs like nɔɔ̂ 'insist on', tól.i 'name (onto)' and kpuǎ 'exit (from)' may not be detected as il by non-native speakers of Mende.

Study these two sentences.

.àˋkulǎˋl.ɔ́ˋpɛ́l.ɛ.îbu He will drop it within the house.



.àˋkùlaˋl.ɔ́ˋpɛ́l.ɛ.îbu He will drop it into the house.



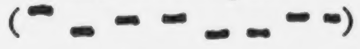
Notice that in the second sentence the tone of the verb is low. When an attached locative phrase indicates where something is or where some action takes place, there is no tonal change. When the sentence expresses the idea of moving something to, into, toward or onto the place named by the locative phrase, the tone of the verb, no matter what it may be, is changed to low, (ˋ). There is no tonal lowering if the locative phrase is nà, 'there', or if nà is left as a place holder for a front-shifted locative phrase, (see Chapter Twenty-one). There is some indication that if the verb in the 'motion toward' construction is to be emphasized for some reason, there is no change of tone.

What we express in English as two sets of prepositions, the Mendes express by lowering the tone of the verbs that precede the postpositions found in the Motion Toward column.

Postposition	Locative	'Motion Toward'
ma	on	onto
hu	in	into
mbu	under	(to) under
mahú	above	onto the top of
ku.lɔ́	before	into the front of

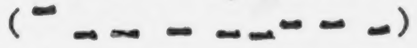
Watch out for verbs like tól.i which operate both as il verbs and non-il verbs.

mátǐlɔ́l.i.àyubɛ́.í We call them (by) vultures.



(where .àyubɛ́.í is like an instrument)

mátǐlòl.i.àyubɛ́.îl.ɔ́ We will name them (with) vultures.



(where .àyubɛ́.í, the name, 'vulture', is affixed to tǐ, 'them'.)

The difference in meaning is not extreme and in many cases, the forms can be used interchangeably. (Notice that in the following drill, there are no ˋ's (from third person singular, .ì) in the 'motion toward' postpositional phrases. The presence of a ˋ offers some tonal difficulties that will be discussed in Chapters Twenty and Twenty-one.)

<u>Drill V.</u> Form 'motion toward' sentences from the following primes.

1. tâ.á
0
kulǎma
ngɛɛ̌.îhu
tâ.á`kùlama`njɛɛ̌.îhu
He is dropping it into the water.

2. .ɛ̀
ndǐ
nà
.ɛ̀lǐnà
He will not go there.

3. .ɛ̀
pǎ
béi
.ɛ̀wàbéi
He will not come here.

4. .ì
ngǐ
toǒn.ì
ngúl.i.í
ku.lɔ́
.ìngǐlòon.ì`l.ɔ́`ngúl.i.îgu.lɔ́
He stood her in front of the tree.

5. .à
0
hɛ́l.ɛ
gbɛhɛ́.í
ma
.à`hɛ̀l.ɛ`l.ɔ́`gbɛhɛ́.îma
He will hang it over the bench.

6. .ì
0
pún.ì
fɛɛ̌.î
hu
.ì`pùn.ì`l.ɔ́`fɛɛ̌.îhu
She put it into the pot.

7. tǐ`
0
toǒn.ì
bí
pôoma
tǐ`tòon.ì`l.ɔ́bíwôoma
They followed you.

8. wɛ̌.ɛ̀
ndǐ
pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu
wɛ̌.ɛ̀lì`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu
You (pl.) will not go into the house.

9. tâ.á
0
púmà
ngúl.i.îsiàbu
tâ.á`pùmà`ngúl.i.îsiàbu
He is putting it under the trees.

10. .à
húma-mɔ.í
tɛ́
mɔtó.í
hu
.àhúma-mɔ.îlɛ̀`l.ɔ́`mɔtó.îhu
He will lift the thief into the car.

CHAPTER TWENTY

THE IMPERATIVE FORM

The imperative forms use the uninflected form of the verb. Intransitive verbs have consonant mutation as do transitive verbs when preceded by an object,(but not`). The verb ndǐ 'go' seems to be irregular in that it is preceded by a downstep in the imperative, `lǐ! 'Go!'.

The types of imperative sentences are numerous and there are a number of ways to 'soften' imperative sentences and make them seem more polite. Only a few will be covered here.

The forms of the imperative are:

1. Vint (an intransitive verb with consonant mutation; `lǐ! 'Go!', wǎ! 'Come!')

2. `Vtr (a transitive verb preceded by ` from .ì, with no consonant mutation; `pé.e! 'Do it!, `kpatɛ̂! 'Fix it!')

3. Nom+Vtr (a transitive verb with consonant mutation preceded by an object; ndɛndɛ̌.ı̂gbatɛ̂! 'Fix the boat!')

4. àmǔ+Vint (an intransitive verb with consonant mutation preceded by àmǔ 'let us'; àmúwǎ!* 'Let us come! àmǔ`lǐ 'Let us go!', àmǔyɛ̀pɛ̌ 'Let us talk!')

5. àmǔ`+Nom+Vtr (# 3 preceded by àmǔ and a downstep except before pronouns; àmǔ`ndɛndɛ̌.ı̂gbatɛ̂! 'Lets fix the boat!')

6. àmǔ+`Vtr (# 2 preceded by àmǔ; àmǔ`pé.e! 'Let us do it!')

7. baá maá 'You not' and 'let's not' are the negative imperatives and occur before # 1 through # 6 with a downstep before objects except pronoun objects.

8. Imp+Loc Locatives are attached to imperatives normally, with downstep except before pronouns and prolocatives; `pé.e`pɛ́l.ɛ.ı̂bu! 'Do it in the house!' `pé.enà! 'Do it there!'

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*mǔ in this course is written mú if it is likely to be interpreted tonally as anything but high in the imperative.

9. Imp+Loc (motion toward)	Locative phrases that state the place to which the subject of a verb moves or to which the object of a verb is moved cause tonal lowering in imperative sentences just as they would in any other sentence. Tonal complications in this matter are discussed below.
10. Imp+Loc (application)	Locative phrases that state to whom or to what the action of the verb is directed operate as they would in other sentences; gbɔ́nyáma! 'Help me!'
11. Imp+Instrumental	When the nominal in an instrumental phrase (e.g. .àkóni 'with an ax') is replaced by a pronoun, (ˋ), the result is a la on a low tone ˋla. The tone comes from ì. When the nominal is deleted in imperative sentences there is no replacement by .ì (or ˋ). The la is attached directly to the verb and the tone is interpreted in the normal way. E.g. baáˋmúsalèw.ěla! (_ ‾ – – _ _ –) 'Don't beat Musa with it! ˋpé.ela! (– – –) 'Do it with it!'

Imperative sentences can be made more polite by the use of 'please', kɔnȇlé, either before or after the imperative, negative or affirmative.

E.g.

kɔnȇlé,bàányálèw.ě!	Please don't beat me!
wàˋkohú,kɔ̀nȇlé!	Come inside please!

Another way to be polite is by using bílémungɔ̀ 'You are begged.' There are many variations of this. The form given here is only to be used in the affirmative.

Drill I. Make imperative sentences from the following.

1.	pǎ	wǎ!	Come!
2.	pǎ béi	wàbéi!	Come here!
3.	ndǐ	ˋlǐ!	Go!

4.	ndǐ nà	`lǐnà!	Go there!
5.	já.a 0 la	já.ala!	Touch it!
6.	pǎ pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	wà`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu!	Come into the house!
7.	0 mɛ̌	`mɛ̌!	Eat it!
8.	0 paǎ	`paǎ!	Kill it!
9.	gbɛhɛ́.í kpatɛ̂	gbɛhɛ́.îgbatɛ̂!	Fix the bench!
10.	nyɛ́ gbɛ́	nyɛ́gbɛ́!	Catch a fish!
11.	0 pú béi	`pùbéi!	Put it here!
12.	0 pú nà	`púnà!	Put it there!
13.	kɔl.ɛ̌.íná kaâ	kɔl.ɛ̌.ínâgaâ!	Read that book!
14.	0 pé.e .àkóni	`pé.e.àkóni!	Do it with an ax!
15.	0 pé.e 0 la	`pé.ela!	Do it with it!

<u>Drill II.</u> Make imperative sentences from the following.

1.	àmú ndǐ	àmú`lǐ!	Let's go!
2.	àmú njɛpɛ̌	àmúyɛ̀pɛ̌!	Let's talk!

3.	àmú ø kpatɛ̂	àmú`kpatɛ̂!	Let's fix it!
4.	àmú ø paǎ	àmú`paǎ!	Let's kill it!
5.	àmú ø téw.e	àmú`téw.e!	Let's cross it!
6.	àmú njɛɛ̌.í téw.e	àmú`njɛɛ̌.îléw.e!	Let's cross the river!
7.	àmú mbɛɛ̌.í mɛ̌	àmú`mbɛɛ̌.îmɛ̌!	Let's eat the rice!
8.	àmú mɔtó.í ngéya	àmú`mɔtó.îyéya!	Let's buy a car!

Drill III. Form negative imperative sentences.

1.	baá ø pé.e	baá`pé.e!	Don't do it!
2.	baá pǎ béi	baáwàbéi!	Don't come here!
3.	baá ná mɛ̌	baánâmɛ̌!	Don't eat that!
4.	baá nà kpê	baánàgbê!	Don't look there!
5.	baá já.a .à nyâ-mɔto.í	baájá.a.ànyâ-mɔto.í	Don't touch my car!

6.	maá ndǐ nà	maá`lǐnà!	Let's not go there!

Drill IV. Respond with negative imperatives to the following sentences.

1.	ngá`lǐ`l.ɔ́	baá`lǐ!	Don't go!
2.	ngábílèw.ě`l.ɔ́	baányálèw.ě!	Don't beat me!
3.	ngá`wǎ`l.ɔ́	baáwǎ!	Don't come!
4.	ngá`mbɛɛ̌.íjîmɛ̌`l.ɔ́	baá`mbɛɛ̌.íjîmɛ̌!	Don't eat this rice!
5.	ngá`kal.ǐ.ínâgbɛ́`l.ɔ́	baá`kal.ǐ.ínâgbɛ́!	Don't chase that snake!
6.	ngá`kaâ`l.ɔ́	baá`kaâ!	Don't read it!
7.	ngá`pé.e`l.ɔ́	baá`pé.e!	Don't do it!
8.	ngá`ndɔɔ̌.ínâgbɔl.ǐ`l.ɔ́	baá`ndɔɔ̌.ínâgbɔl.ǐ!	Don't drink that wine!
9.	ngá`heǐ`l.ɔ́`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu	baáhèǐ`pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu!	Don't sit in the house!
10.	ngá`kɛɛ̌.îwilî`l.ɔ́	baá`kɛɛ̌.îwilî!	Don't throw away the trash!
11.	ngá`kɛɛ̌.îyíla`l.ɔ́	baá`kɛɛ̌.îyíla!	Don't sweep the dirt!
12.	ngá`njɛɛ̌.îgbɔl.ǐ`l.ɔ́	baá`njɛɛ̌.îgbɔl.ǐ!	Don't drink the water!
13.	ngá`lì`l.ɔ́`tɛ̀ɛ̌.îhu	baálì`tɛɛ̌.îhu!	Don't go to town!
14.	ngá`húmɛ.îwé.e`l.ɔ́ (note definite)	baá`húmawé.e!	Don't steal!
15.	ngábímàǎ-yiagɛ́`l.ɔ́	baányámàǎ-yiagɛ́!	Don't expose me!

The words and phrases that can make an imperative softer are many and varied. A standard form for beginning speakers of Mende could be <u>kɔnɛ̂lé</u> 'please'. It can be used before or after both negative and affirmative sentences. Other possible forms are listed here without comment.

1.	kɔnɛ̂lé,`fèmbɛ́!	Please give it to me!
2.	`fèmbɛ́,kɔ̀nɛ̂lé!	Give it to me please!
3.	gbɛɛ́.íwǎ,hoǐ!	Wait till he comes, please!
4.	mǔmàâwó.o!	Wait for us!
5.	mǔ`màâwó.o!	Let's wait!
6.	bílémungɔ̀,`pé.e!	Please do it!
7.	`pé.e,bílémungɔ̀!	Please do it!
8.	bílémungɔ́.ìlé,`mɛ̌!	Please eat it!
9.	`mɛ̌,bílémungɔ́.ìlé!	Please eat it!
10.	baájòlǐla,kɔnɛ̂lé!	Don't play with it, please!
11.	baányìmǐ`ma,bílémungɔ́.ì.ìlé	Don't step on it, please!

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

FRONT-SHIFTING AND QUESTIONS

In Chapter Ten it was mentioned that in spoken Mende one often finds the shape of sentences considerably different from the simple specimen sentences we have seen in the drills. The sections on useful phrases and the slide narratives contain numerous examples of what is called here *front-shifting*. This is defined as the placement of one or more elements of the sentence at the beginning of the sentence for emphasis, stylistic reasons or no special reason at all.

In the sentences (other than locative and *ngɔ̀* sentences) that have been learned up to this point, the general order of the elements in the sentence has been S (O) V (L), (S - subject, O - object, V - verb, L - locative). The items that can be front shifted are S, O, L, and OV. The objects of postpositions can also be front-shifted. In a sentence containing a transitive verb, the O or OV and either S or L (or both) or the object of a post-position may be front-shifted. The important thing to remember is that each element that is front-shifted leaves a semantic/syntactic marker in the sentence which retains the order S (O) V (L).

When a subject or an object element is front-shifted, the form *mia* is attached to it by a hyphen. *tɔmí.àˋpé.eˋl.ɔ́* becomes *tɔmí-mia.àˋpé.e** 'Tommy will do it.' Whereas *tɔmí.à* is the subject in the first sentence, the *à* alone represents the subject in the second (ø.à, third person singular).

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*There is a problem in determining whether or not to use the *l.ɔ́* in sentences with front-shifting. First of all, phrases ending in *mia* can be complete sentences. Some sentences of this type can be found in the section on useful phrases and the narratives. (e.g. *tɔmí-mia* 'It's Tommy.'). Second, the *mia* on a front-shifted element generally 'cancels' the *affirmative emphatic l.ɔ́* in affirmative sentences. If there is a *l.ɔ́* present in sentences with front-shifted elements, it is very likely that the front-shifted element is a separate sentence with a pause between the front-shifted element and the rest of the sentence.

tɔmí-mia.àˋpé.e	'Tommy will do it.'
tɔmí-mia_àˋpé.eˋl.ɔ́	'Tommy. He will do it.'

In either case the description present in this chapter (semantic/syntactic representatives) applies.

Look again at this long, totally front-shifted sentence.

ndɔgbɔ̌.îhundɛndɛ̌.îgbatɛ̂lɛ̀.î-miatɔmí-mia.à`pé.e`l ɔ́nà

'In the forest, it's boat building, it's Tommy, he will do it.'

Notice the S (O) V (L) skeleton of the sentence: S - .à, O - ` (from .ì), V - pé.e, L - nà. When nouns (including compounds) are front-shifted, the pronouns that represent them in the S (O) V (L) skeleton must be selected according to the semantic nature of the nominal element.

E.g. Plural,	
kênɛ.îsiàtǎ`pé.e`l.ɔ́	
kênɛ.îsià-miatǎ`pé.e	The men will do it.
Singular	
tɔmí.à`pé.e`l.ɔ́	
tɔmí-mia.à`pé.e	Tommy will do it.
Locative	
mǔâ.á`nyɛ́gbɛ́mɛ̀.îgbêmà	
nyɛ́gbɛ́mɛ̀.î-miamǔâ.ánàgbêmà	We are looking at the fishing place.

It should be noted that the above rules operate on the object when it is front-shifted alone. When the object and verb are front-shifted together, they are represented by `pé.e 'it do'. The object-verb complex has la affixed onto it.

Study the following sentences with front-shifting.

ndɛndɛ̌.î-mia.à`kpatɛ̂`l.ɔ́`ndɔgbɔ̌.îhu

He will build a boat in the forest.

ndɔgbɔ̌.îhundɛndɛ̌.î-mia.à`kpatɛ̂`l.ɔ́nà

There are ambiguities that can come from front-shifting. In general, if an ambiguity will be created, there is no front-shifting.

If, for instance, the sentence tɔmí.àndɛndɛ̌.îgbatɛ̂`l.ɔ́ `ndɔgbɔ̌.îhu is put in either of these two orders, it can be easily understood.

ndɔgbɔ̌.îhutɔmí-miandɛndɛ̌.î-mia.à`kpatɛ̂`l.ɔ́nà

ndɔgbɔ̌.îhundɛndɛ̌.î-miatɔmí-mia.à`kpatɛ̂`l.ɔ́nà

First, nà replaces ndɔgbɔ̌.îhu in S (O) V (L) since ndɔgbɔ̌.îhu is the only locative in the front-shifted area. Now the question is did Tommy build the boat or did the boat build Tommy. The _̀ before kpatɛ̂, remember, is the neuter pronoun, (as an object, it is suggested that there is a ∅ before .à here that is both neuter and non-neuter) and 'boat' is neuter, leaving no ambiguity. Had ngǐ been before kpatɛ̂, the boat would be building Tommy. In a sentence like músa-miatɔmí-mia.àngǐléw.e, both Musa and Tommy are non-neuter and ngǐ could represent either. Most Mendes would interpret that 'Tommy cut Musa', but there is some doubt. The element closest to the S in the S (O) V (L) is considered to be the subject. Other than in cases like this one, there is seldom any problem with ordering the various front-shifted elements. The worst problem is identifying subject and object. When the object and the verb (with a la suffix) are front-shifted together, there is little doubt as to which is the subject and which is the object.

E.g.

tɔmí-miandɛndɛ̌.îgbatɛ̂lɛ̀.î-mia.àˋpé.e

ndɛndɛ̌.îgbatɛ̂lɛ̀.î-miatɔmí-mia.àˋpé.e

Practicing Front-Shifting

Chapters 13, 14, and 15 contain simple sentences which can be used by the student for front-shifting exercises involving subjects and objects.

'Motion-Toward' and Front-Shifting

In Chapter 19, the tonal change of the verb when change of place is involved is discussed. There are some problems introduced when the locative phrase or part of it is front-shifted.

1. If the entire locative phrase is front-shifted and replaced by nà, there is no tone-lowering.

.àˋpùˋl.ɔ́ˋpɛ́l.ɛ.îbu

pɛ́l.ɛ.îbu.àˋpúˋl.ɔ́nà He will put it in the house.

2. If the motion-toward locative phrase contains the postpositions ma, mbu, hu, nda or nga, there is no tonal shift if there is the pronoun object, _̀, present due to front-shifting or simple semantic replacement of a noun by _̀.

fɛɛ̌.îwùˋpɛ́l.ɛ.îbu!	
pɛ́l.ɛ.î-miafɛɛ̌.îwúˋmbu!	Put it in the house!
fɛɛ̌.îwúˋmbu!	Put it in it!

3. There is tonal change before the other postpositions even if the object of the postposition has been replaced by ˋ_.

fɛɛ̌.îlòoˋpɛ́l.ɛ.îgu.lɔ́!	
pɛ́l.ɛ.î-miafɛɛ̌.îlòoˋku.lɔ́!	Put it in front of the house!

Front-Shifted 'la' Objects

Any phrase of the type .àkóni, (.àX), can have the object replaced by ˋ_ resulting in ˋla 'with it'. If however the ˋ_ or object is front-shifted (ˋ_ becomes tâ-mia), there is no ˋ_ before la and la gets its tone by tonal sharing from the vowel that precedes it.

tâ-mia.àngǐléw.ela (‾ ---_‾ - -)	He will cut him with it.
tâ-mia.àngǐlew.ěla (‾ --- ‾_ _‾)	He will beat him with it.

Questions

Most non-imperative sentences in Mende can be made into questions by the use of question intonation. Question intonation is indicated in this course by writing a question mark after the sentence. Mende questions that are formed with question words (like Eng. what, who) do not have question intonation and are not written with question marks.

E.g.

.àˋpé.eˋl.ɔ́?	Will he do it?
gbɔ̂.ɔ́.àˋpé.e	What will he do?

The most important question forms are:

gbɛ̂.í	why?	yeé	how?
gbɛ̂va	why?	mîgbe	when?

ye	who?	mî	where?
gbɛ̂	what?		

The first two occur at the beginning of the sentence with no alteration to the sentence. L.ɔ́ is usually added to gbɛ̂va.

E.g.

gbɛ̂.ímǎ`mbɛɛ̌.îwá	Why do we wash the rice?
gbɛ̂va.ámǎ`mbɛɛ̌.îwá	

When the l.ɔ́, (.à), is attached to the question word in an affirmative sentence there is usually no other l.ɔ́ in the sentence.

The form yeé follows the tense marker that is attached to the subject.

E.g.

tɔmí.àyeéndɛ̀ndɛ̌.îgbatɛ̂	How will Tommy build a boat?
tɔmí.ìyeé`pé.en.ì	How did Tommy do it?

Mîgbe 'when', is also attached to the beginning of the sentence with no changes in the sentence.

E.g.

mîgbe.à`pé.e	When will he do it?

Ye, gbɛ̂ and mî operate somewhat differently. It is quite easy to use ye, gbɛ̂ and mî properly if they are considered to be front-shifted forms with representatives left in the skeleton of the sentence just like other front-shifted forms. It is possible to have question sentences in which the question word (ye, gbɛ̂ or mî) is not front-shifted (e.g. bí`lìmamî`l.ɔ́ 'Where are you going?'), but this is not usually the form.

Yé can take the following forms when front-shifted: yemîa. yel.ɔ́ or yɔ.ɔ́, the first being the most common. Study these.

yemîa.à`pé.e	Who will do it?
yemîatángǐlɔ́	Who will they look at?
yemîatǎ`gbɔ́ngǐma	Who will they help?

Mî is followed by -mia and is represented by nà in the rest of the sentence. L.ɔ́ usually follows mî-mia.

mî-mia.á.àlǐnà	Where will he go?
mî-mia.á.à` púnà	Where will he put it?

Gbɛ̂ is a little more flexible: *gbɛ̂lé*, *gbɛ̂-mia* (usually with *1.ɔ́*) and *gbɔ̂.ɔ́* (from *gbɛ̂* *1.ɔ́*). *Gbɔ̂.ɔ́* seems to occur most often.

E.g.

gbɔ̂.ɔ́.à` pé.e	What will he do?
gbɔ̂.ɔ́bíma	What is wrong with you? ('What is on you?')
gbɔ̂.ɔ́.àngúl.i.îwɔ́la	What will he cut the tree with?
gbɔ̂.ɔ́` bájingɔ̀	What is yellow?
gbɔ̂.ɔ́ngǐyêya	What is his?

For Further Study

The Useful Phrases section and the Narratives both contain many examples of front-shifting and question sentences. They should be carefully studied. Questions and front-shifted sentences should be formed from each of the sentences in Chapters 10 through 19.

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

ADDITIONAL NOTES AND COMMENTS

Yaá

Sentences with yaá are used to respond to the question, .ìyeénà 'What (how) is it like?' The response might be .ìyaákpáun 'It is hard.', .ìyaákútu 'It is short.', .ìyaádéndele 'It is very big. Items coded ya in the lexicon can fit into this sentence pattern.

A Note on Reduplication

There are a number of types of reduplication like vívi-vivi in tâ.á`hǔvívi-vivimà 'He is swinging it (around and around)'. Many verbs may be reduplicated in a variety of ways. Reduplicated verbs are seldom used in this basic course, but the reduplicative potential of verbs is recorded in the lexicon so that the Mende language student can verify his analysis of what he may hear where Mende is spoken.

In general, reduplicated verbs indicate emphasis or repeated or continuing action. Study the following examples and consult the proper entry in the lexicon.

Verb (or other form)	Code	Comments
ba.aba.a	redob	redob indicates that the form in question does not occur in its prime form, only the reduplicated form.
bɛ.ɛbɛ.ɛ	redob	
dɔ́gbɛdɔ́gbɛ	red	simple reduplication ('very tender')
fogbǎ-fogba vogbǎ-vogba	-redd	from fogbâ, double consonant mutation, the tonal change is found with all -redd verbs with these tones.
hágahaga	redred	
waǎ-paa	-red	
waapaa-waapaa	-redredd	

Additional Modifiers

Adverbs often occur sentence finally. See panda, Slide number two, line sixteen (S2:16); gbɔma, S3:22. Some modifiers follow the tense suffix on the subject, see S3:23.

Some modifiers like tɛɛ̂nga and gbí follow the noun directly and are not connected to nouns by hyphens, i.e. lɔ́w.ɔtɛ̀ɛ̂ngama 'someday', see S1:14, also S2:22 for sentence initial tɛɛ̂nga. See the following for nyikɔ, bonda, kíni and bɛ́ in S2:6, S2:14, S4:2, S4:44.

The phrase pel.ě.îsiàyeélási.îsià 'roads of this type' contains a modifier that is attached to yeé and not the nouns. It can be read as 'the roads, these kinds (of them)'. See also S4:24, S4:47, S4:52, S4:53, S8:3.

Third Singular .ì

Third person singular pronoun objects are ` if non-animate and ngǐ if animate, (although occasionally ngǐ represents a non-human noun). Third person singular subjects are t before â, e.g. tâ.ábéi 'He is here.' or ∅ (? a deleted ` from .ì) which is never written in this course. There are a very few cases when an .ì subject is written, e.g. .ìgba 'it is different'. See S4:20, S10:25, S16:30.

If, When, After

If l.ɔ́ is added to sentences in the past tense, perfect form, the meaning of the sentence is changed from a statement to a clause the translation of which includes if, when or after. This clause is followed by a sentence in the future tense, e.g. mɔtó`lew.ěng.a`l.ɔ́ 'When the car has passed...'. See S2:19 for when, after; S2:25 for when; S4:9 and S4:10 for if and others; S8:25 for the negative; and S11:13, S11:24, S13:40, S14:31, S14:42.

Yɛ̀: To Say

The verb yɛ̀ 'to say', usually combines with a preceding pronoun with vowel assimilation in the pronoun, nyɛ́.ɛ̀, tɛ̌.ɛ̀, etc. They are usually written here as nyɛ̂, tɛ̂, etc. since they need not be lengthened. These forms are used to indicate who is being quoted: bí`tɔ́.a`.ábɛ̂... 'If you saw it, you would say....' See also tɛ̂, S11:25; ngɛ̂, S12:53 and other forms in S11:27, S13:28, S12:27, S12:32, S16:36.

The Subjunctive

The subjunctive comes in two forms, affirmative and negative.

Affirmative		Negative	
ngí	mú	ngaá	muaá
bí	wú	baá	wuaá
.í	tí	aá	taá

(The last three are sometimes written mǔ, wǔ, and tǐ.)

Notice that the affirmative is always high in tone. There is a downstep (for which no explanation is offered here) between the pronoun and a following object (but not ̀) just as with the imperative. Notice that the negative subjunctive second person singular baá is the same as the negative imperative. There is no affix on a subjunctive verb. These subjunctive forms must come after kû 'be able', àkû`l.ɔ́.íhà.amɛ̌.îhǔfôo 'It will survive the rainy season'. To want, desire, ndó, takes a subjunctive form, e.g. ngǐlóngɔ̀.í`pé.e 'He wants to do it.' See also S4:3 and S4:39 for the negative.

The form íná 'if', is probably, 'be it that'. See S1:9, S2:26, S14:15 for íná and study the subjunctives in S1:17, S2:18, S9:2, S9:34, S2:24, S3:29, S4:35, S4:39, S5:10, S5:11, S5:28, S5:29, S17:17, S17:20, S5:27.

Past Form, Present Time

There are six (possibly more) verbs which have been called 'verbs of posture' (Crosby, p. 44). These verbs heǐ 'sit', toǒ 'stand', pɛlɛ̌ 'stoop', hɛ́lɛ 'squat', tigbî 'lean', ndaǎ 'lay', are coded ni in the lexicon. There is a special process these verbs undergo which permits them to become a part of other sentences and have a present time meaning. (One of the verbs, ndaǎ, which becomes laǎ 'lay' differs in tone from the prime form ndá 'lay', see S2:23).

Whether or not the verbs in question are transitive, the process which verbs coded with ni go through treats them as transitive verbs. The resultant forms are.

heǐn.ì	sitting
loǒn.ì	standing
wɛlɛ̌n.ì	stooping
hɛ́l.ɛn.ì	squatting
ligbîn.ì	leaning
laǎn.ì	lying

These forms come from sentences like:

X.ìngǐheǐn.ì`l.ɔ́	X sat him down.
X.ìngǐloǒn.ì`l.ɔ́	X stood him.
X.ìngǐligbîn.ì`l.ɔ́	X leaned him.

The form heǐn.ì 'seated, sitting' is translated in present time although the form is past. The sentence X.ìngǐheǐn.ì`l.ɔ́ is called here a ni sentence and the phrase heǐn.ì is a ni form. Ni sentences can and often do have locatives attached, X.ìngǐheǐn.ìmîandó 'X sat him there.' When an X sentence is combined with another sentence (which is not an X sentence) and the object of the X sentence is the same as the subject or object or the non-X sentence, the ni form and any locatives that follow may be made a part of the X sentence.

Study the following:

ngǐl.ɔ́	It's he.
X.ìngǐheǐn.ì`l.ɔ́	X sat him down.
ngǐl.ɔ́`heǐn.ì	He is seated.
ngǐl.ɔ́	
X.ìngǐheǐn.ì`l.ɔ́mîandó	
ngǐl.ɔ́`heǐn.ìmîandó	He is sitting there.
pɛ́l.ɛl.ɔ́	There's a house.
X.ìpɛ́l.ɛlòǒn.ì`l.ɔ́nà	X built a house.
pɛ́l.ɛl.ɔ́`loǒn.ìnà	There's a house standing (built) there.

The Lexicon

There are a few abbreviations in the lexicon which have not been explained previously. Items are entered in the lexicon in their base or prime form. The major entries have not undergone any morphophonemic changes. Intransitive verbs are entered with strong consonant mutation. There are many words in the lexicon that do not occur in the course. It is hoped that the lexicon may be of some use in the field.

Adj - Some items are coded Adj. This indicates that there are some forms which function as adjectives that cannot be explained as some other form. See also Nf, vb and (Vint).
also - Alternate form.
at - This code marks intransitive verbs that can follow nouns, being connected to them by a hyphen.
Adv - Adverb
fa - Verbs that take postpositional phrases with fa are coded fa.
h - This marks verbs that can take hǔ prefixes.
hob - This marks verbs that must take hǔ prefixes.
id - Ideophones and forms that, like ideophones, have extra length, high pitch and often heavy nasalization.
il - 'Motion toward' verbs are coded il.
ir - Forms that do not have regular vowel assimilation before the definite marker .í are coded ir.
kp - Words marked kp are called Kpa Mende by some informants. All Kpa Mende forms are not indicated in the lexicon.
la - This marks verbs that take phrases with la or .à that are not considered to be instrumental expressions.
Loc - Locative
m - This marks a verb that can take a maǎ prefix.
ma - This marks a verb that can take a non-locative postpositional phrase with ma.

mob - Verbs marked mob must have a maǎ prefix.

N2 - Nouns that name body parts and a few other items. Sometimes called inalienable nouns. When possessed, these nouns have consonant mutation but not tonal change.

N3 - These nouns are almost all names of relatives. When possessed, they do not have consonant mutation and have no tonal change.

N1 - Nouns that are not N2 or N3 are N1. When possessed, they have consonant mutation and tonal change.

Nf - Noun formative. Essentially these forms are unclassified. They are always combined with another form and the product is a noun.

ng - Verbs coded ng can take the suffix ngɔ̀.

non - Forms coded non do not have consonant mutation.

s - Sentence adverb.

t - Adverb of time.

v - Nouns coded v may have a definite form in .v́.

vb - A verb coded vb cannot be used in some tenses with any reasonable meaning. This is a verb block. For some usually obvious semantic reason, these verbs are seen only in their derived forms.

Vint - Intransitive verb.

vob - Forms coded vob must have a definite form in .v́.

Vtr - Transitive verb.

wɛ - Verbs that take postpositional phrases with wɛ are coded wɛ.

LEXICON

-- B --

bâ - price, value; Nl, vob

bâ.âágbíìngǐma - He has no value.

baǎ - 1) accuse falsely; Vint, ma

2) lack; Vint, la, ng

ngǐbaǎngɔ̀`la - He lacks it.

ba.a - Adj, redob, ng, ya

ba.aba.a - foolish

ba.aba.a-hinda - foolish thing

.àba.aba.a - foolishly; (Adv)

babá - father; N3

nyábàbál.ɔ́ - This is my father.

bafa - hut; Nl

also bafǎ (in some compounds)

bafǎ-gi.iki.i - round hut

bafá - illegitimate, premature; (Vint, vb, ng); Adj, ng

ngǐbafángɔ̀ - He is illegitimate.

báji - yellow; Vint, tr, ng, ya

ba.lâ - basket; Nl

sukûblɛ̂.í - Susu basket (not hyphenated)

bál.a - lower jaw; N2, v

also mbál.a

balî - Vtr, mob, fa, ng

maǎbalî - prevent, hold back

XmaǎbalîYvâ - prevent X from (doing) Y (Y - Verb)

bámande - bell; Nl, v

kp - gbámande

bambî - (springing tree) snare; Nl

huǎ-bambi - game snare

kaîklo-bambi - squirrel snare

banga - big, large, great; Adj, ng

baya - sly, two-faced; Nf, ng

baya-hinda - treacherous business

baya-mɔ - treacherous person, sly person beêdi - bread; Nl

from brêdi (Krio)

béi - here; Loc

also mbéi

béîndó - right here

beté - 'plasas', sauce; Nl

njow.ǒ-law.abete - potato leaf plasas

bɛ́ - also, even, even though

also bɛ̂ɛ́

jîbɛ́nyàndɛ̌ngɔ̀ - This also is good.

jíbɛ́.ìwàn.ì - Even when (though) he did not come...

nyâbɛ́l.ɔ́̀wǎma - I too will come.

bɛ.ɛ - Vint, redob, ng, ya

bɛ.ɛbɛ.ɛ - soft, flimsy, tender

bɛɛ́si - swine, pig; Nl

bɛɛ́si-hua - pork

bɛlɛ - trousers; Nl

also bɛlɛ̌ (in some compounds)

bɛngulâ - cemetery; Nl, v

bôla - cup; Nl

kɔfí-bola - coffee cup

bolě - meddle, fiddle with; Vint, la

bolě-mɔ.í - joker

bomuko - bush pigeon; Nl

bonda - sort of, kind of

jîbònda - this kind, like this, for example

yeégbɛ̂bònda - which kind?

nâbònda - that kind

mîabònda - like that kind over there

kíabínj̀ébònda - like your mother

bônga - (species) fish; Nl

bônga-be - dried bonga

bônga-wundu - fresh bonga

bɔ́î-lopo - boy, male servant; N1
bɔkû - do something partially; Vtr, ng
bɔlɔ - hat; N1
also bɔlɔ̌ (in some compounds)
bɔndɔ́ - okra; N1
kɔ̂-bondɛ.í - northern okra
kpundɔhú-bɔndɛ.í - southern okra
bɔndɔ́-hakpa - okra sauce
bɔnɔ - hard work; N1
bɔnɔ-mɔ - hard worker
bɔ.ɔ - Vint, redob, ng, ya
bɔ.ɔbɔ.ɔ - smooth
bɔɔ́ - something, thing; N1
bɔtâni - fist; N2
bɔtânigóto - Make (fold) a fist!
bubá - smock, tunic; N1, v
bubû - fly; Vint, ng
bûku - book; N1
bu.lû - blue; Vtr, ng
búl.u - horn, trumpet; N1
mahǎ-bul.u - horn that announces the chief
bûsɛ - bushel; N1
nyɔɔ̌-busɛ̀yelá - one bushel of corn
búw.u - April; Adv, t

-- D --

dágba - banana, plantain heart; N1
maâna-dagba - plantain heart
sɛ́lɛ-dagba - plantain heart
daw.ú - August; Adv, t
demîa - father, brother-in-law; N3
dɛngɛ - jelly-like substance; Adv, ya, ng, red
dɛngɛ-gbo - dysentery

díɡbe - heel; N2
díngbo - post for a building; N1
disô - sneeze; N1; Vint, ng
also tisô
dɔ́gbɛ - young, tender; (Vint, vb, red, ng, ya, at); Adj, red, ng, ya, at
dɔmɛ́ - story; N1
dɔmɛ́gbùǎ - Tell (let out) a story!
dɔmɛ́gbùǎmɔ̀ - story teller
dɔ̂w.u - duck; N1
dɔ̂w.u-ha - female duck
dɔ̂w.u-hina - drake
dɔ̂w.u-yaw.u - duck egg
dûmbeêka - star; N1

-- F --

fǎ - news; N1, v
gbɛ̂-va.ánà - 'What news is there?' 'News of what is there?'
fǎ - greet; Vint, ma, ng
tâ.á̀ vǎmangǐma - He is greeting him.
fá.ayo.o - very pale; Adv, ng, id, ya
ngǐgol.ěngɔ̀, fá.ayo.o - He is white, very pale.
fáha - crowd; N1; Adj, ng
fáhahu - in a crowd
fáhalía - in a crowd
faînya - cassava flour (farina); N1
fáji - bucket; N1
njaǎ-vaji - water bucket
nyɛ́-vaji - fish bucket
fakâ - 1) veranda, porch; N1
2) strength; N2
ngǐvakâléw.engɔ̀ - He is lazy. ('His strength is cut.')
?fakǎ-lew.e - laziness (strength-cut)
?fakǎ-yaa - laziness
fakâgbí.ìbíhu - There is no strength in you.

fakâl.i - pawpaw; Nl

fakâl.i-gbole - immature pawpaw

fakâl.i-hiti - full-grown pawpaw

fakâl.i-gbɔl.u - red, ripe pawpaw

fakâl.i-lula - rotten pawpaw

fal.a - 1) lean; Vint, ma, ng

tâ.á`vàl.ama`ma - He is leaning on it.

2) to become ready, prepare; Vint, ng

ngǐval.angɔ̀ - He is prepared.

ngǐval.angɔ̀lapǐvâ - He is ready to fight.

fál.a - 1) bamboo stalk or raffia branch (for baskets, pen points, brooms); Nl, v

kaá-val.a - pen point (from kaâ)

2) (species) bush nut; Nl, v

falé - therefore

jîvalé, - for this reason...

...falé, bímàhúgbê - ...so (therefore) take care of yourself.

falé, ngí`wǎn.i - Therefore I came.

fále - sprout, plant, mushroom; Nl; Vint, ng, at

mbaǎ-vale - rice sprout

fâl.i - sow, swing (the arm), scatter; Vtr, ng

also fâin

fâl.i-han.i - things to sow, (seeds)

famia - for this reason, therefore, so

famia, ngí`wǎn.i - For this reason, I came.

fandě - cotton, thread, strands; Nl

fandě-gbaya - cotton head tie

fasâ - lobster; Nl

fasal.i - interpretation; Nl; interpret, explain; Vtr, ng

fasal.i-mɔ - expounder

fáw.a - rock ledge, boulder; N, v

fawɔ̂l.i - disturbance; Nl; disturb, play a prank; Vtr, ng

also fawâl.i

ngǐvawɔ̂l.ingɔ̀ - He is disturbing

fawâl.igɔ̂l.i - seek (pluck) disturbance

faw.ǒ - news; Nl
fáya - scatter, spread, throw (away), spill; Vtr, -redd, h, ng
hǔváya - disperse
fé - 1) swell; Vint, red, redred, ng; a swelling; Nl
fé-han.i - swollen thing
2) give, Vtr, ng, wɛ
fêlama - junction; Nl
pel.ě.îvêlamɛ.í - crossroad (the road's junction)
nguǔ-velama - conflict, crossing of (personal) wills ('heads')
fel.ě - trade, commerce; Nl
fel.ě.îgɔ́ - execute trade
fel.é - two; Numeral
fénda - fill; Vtr, ng, at
fenjɔ - both; Nl
from fel.engɔ̀
also fenja
kp fengɔ
fenjɔvèngǐwɛ! - Give both to him!
kênɛ.ísià-venjɔ - both men
fɛ́ - blow; Vtr, m, nga, ng
maǎvɛ́ - blow on
ngáfɛ́ - to winnow
fɛɛ̌ - clay, metal pot; Nl
njaǎ-vɛɛ - water pot
fɛfɛ̌ - wind; Nl
fɛfɛ̌-gula - sail ('wind cloth')
fɛfɛ̌lɛ́ - inhale ('sniff, raise wind')
fɛfɛ̌gbùǎ - exhale ('release')
fɛfɛ̂l.ɛ - stick (on); Vtr, ma, ng; hover near; Vint, ng
also fɛfɛ̂.i, fɛfɛ.i
Xvɛfɛ̂l.ɛ̀ma - stick X on it
fɛl.ɛ̌ - weave, sew, braid; Vtr, m, ng
maǎvɛl.ɛ̌ - sew around (a patch)

fɛlɛ̂ - winnowing fan; Nl

kɔ́-vɛlɛ - fighting shield

fɛl.ǐ - 1) say goodbye(s); Vint, ma, ng

2) beg for; Vtr, ng

fɛl.ǐ-mɔ - beggar

ngǐvɛl.ǐngɔ̀ - He always begs.

fɛ́l.i - become poor; Vint, ng; Nl

fɛ́l.i-mɔ - poor person

fɛ́l.i-bla .a - poor people

fɛmbɛ̂ - swing; Vtr, redd, ng

fɛ́ngbɛ - white cloth, especially satin; Nl

fɛ́ngbɛ-bɛlɛ - any white trousers

fɛ́sɛ - search, scratch out; Vtr, ng, h, mbu

fîbi - sound of something wet striking something; Adv, id

`kulǎ, fîbi - Drop it with a splat!

fiîki - sound of cutting or sawing with a dull blade; Adv, id, red, ya, ng

filǐ-baa - (species) rice; Nl

fisǎ - improve, get better; Vint, ng, non

ngǐfisǎngɔ̀ - He has improved. He is better (than another).

físiwâl.i - ingratitude; Nl, Vint, ng, non

also físawâl.i

físiwâl.i-mɔ - ungrateful person

fitîl.i - twilight; Adv, t

fitîl.ima - (at) twilight

fívî.i - shake (dry), swing (arms); Vtr, -redd*, h, ng (fí, -reddredd)

also fívi

* hǔvívi-vivi - swing, shake very much

fó - sharp pain, sting, hurt; Vint, ng, Nl

fó - Vtr, ngaob, ng

`ngáfó - blow it, fan (the fire)

`ngáfóngɔ̀ - It (the fire) is blown (on).

fof.ô - light; Nl (Nl, -red:fǒ)

ngɔmbǔ-vof.o - fire light

hɛ́mu-vof.o - firelight

fogbâ - whip; Vtr, h, m, nga, -redd, ng
fogbǎ-fogba - repeated whipping
hǔvogbâ - beat in
fol.ê - whistle; Nl; to whistle with the mouth; Vint, ng
fol.ê.îvɛ́ - whistle (blow) a whistle
fol.o - whistle; Nl, ir
also folô
fol.o.îvɛ́ - blow a whistle
fól.o - sun, day; Nl
fól.ongùndía - overhead sun
ngeênda-vol.o - morning sun
fól.olen - bright part of the day
fóleî`lɛ́kpɛnga - 'sun has tilted', afternoon
fól.o-gbandi - hot sun, hot day
kpɔkɔ̂-vol.o - evening sun
fól.o-nɛku - early, young sun
fól.ohìyě-ma - sun's rising place
fól.ogùlǎ-ma - sun's falling place
fóma - whip, cane, bundle of switches; Nl
nikǎ-voma - switch for cows
ndil.î-voma - switch for flies
fómbo - straighten, stretch; Vtr, h, -redd, ng, il
hǔvómbo - stretch out
foni - savannah, elephant grass; Nl
fonǐ in all compounds
fóningɛ - young man, woman (18-22 years, usually initiated); Nl
fóningɛ-yaa - time of youth
fôo - 1) year; Nl
2) shine; Vint, tr, ma, ng (never il)
Xvôo Yma - Shine X on Y.
3) reach, arrive; Vint, ma, ng, non, il
fôoklɔ̂ki - gecko lizard ('you will die at four o'clock if bitten by one'); Nl

fɔ́ - really, completely; Adv, id

kúnafɔ́ - forever

ngí`pé.en.ì`l.ɔ́,fɔ́ - I really did it.

fɔ̂bɔ - 'splat', see fîbi

fɔfɔ - beetle, flea; Nl

ndɔ.ɔ́.ɔ̂-vɔfɔ - earth beetle

ndɔɔ̌-vɔfɔ - wine beetle

tɔ́kpɔ-vɔfɔ - palm beetle

fɔ́na - Vtr, ngaob, -red, ng

`ngáfɔ́na - sharpen it to a point

`ngáfɔ́na-fɔnangɔ̀ - It is sharpened.

fɔ́ndɔ - perspiration, sweat, labor; N2; Vint

fɔnî - pinch; Nl; Vtr, -redd, ng

fɔnǐ-fɔni - pinch repeatedly

fɔ́nya - wring; Vtr, -redd, h, ng

fɔ́nyi - pus, infectuous discharge; Nl

fɔtó - photograph, any picture; Nl, ir, non; N2

fufû.lo - dust; Nl, ir

fúka - grind; Vtr, -redd, h, ng, at

fúka-fuka - grind to a powder

mbaǎ-vuka - pounded rice

fúko - head pad (for carrying); Nl

hiîndo-vuko - mansize head pad

nyahâ-vuko - medium size head pad

ndopô-vuko - boy (small) size head pad

fu.lâ - double, twins; Nl

fu.lâ-loolo - double kola nut

fu.lâ-nikil.i - double ground nut

fula - village; Nl

kɔ́-vula - fortified village

fúla - hurry up, heat up, foment; Vtr, m, nga, -red, ng

maǎ-vula - sickness

maǎvúla - hurry up

ngǐmaǎvúlangɔ̀ - He is sick.

fú.lo - unwrap, untangle; Vtr, -red, m, ng

maǎvú.lo - to do midwifery

maǎ-vu.lo - midwifery

maǎ-vu.lo-mɔ - midwife

fû.lo - quickly; Adv, s, red

fúl.u - living thing; Nl; become alive; Vint, ng

fúl.u-han.i - living thing

ngǐvúl.ungɔ̀ - It is alive.

fuvû - parboil; Vtr, m, ng (? fǔ, reddob)

mbaǎvuvûmìta - rice parboiling spoon

-- G --

galó - October; Adv, t, ir

gba - different; Vint, ya; difference; Nl

.ìgba...Xma - it is different from X

kɔlɛ̌.îsiàtǐgbàngɔ̀ - The books are different.

kɔlɛ̌.íjî.ìgbajîma - This book is different from that.

kɔlɛ̌.íjî.ìyɛ̀gbajîma - This book was different from that.

gbâ - Vtr, mob, ng

maǎgbâ - pen in, hold back

gbahá - swinging hammock bridge; Nl

ngeyǎ-gbaha - rope bridge

gɔɔ̂tɔ-gbaha - heavy rope bridge

gbama - red bream; Nl

gbáma - in vain, ordinary; Adj, ng, at*; Adv, s

* not connected by a hyphen.

núm.ugbáma - ordinary person

`pé.egbáma - Do it without compensation!

gbanyâ - pliers, pincers; Nl

also gbanyá

kɔlǔ-gbanya - iron pliers

gbawá - hat, sombrero; Nl

also gbawɛ́

gbémbel.e - plank; Nl

gbéng.i - yesterday, last night; Adv, t

gbéng.iyèkɛ.í - two days ago (from peka)

gbɛ̂ - what?

gbɔ̂.ɔ́ from gbɛ̂.ɔ́ from gbɛ̂l.ɔ́

gbɔ̂.ɔ́̀.àjí - What is this?

gbɛ̂.í - why?

gbɛ̂.íbí̀pé.enì - Why did you do it?

gbɛ̂va - Why?

gbɛ̂va.á - why? (for what reason) (gbɛ̂ val.ɔ́)

gbɛva - because

gbɛhɛ́ - bench, stool; N1

gbɛ́nɛ - loss of skin pigmentation through wear or abrasion, yellowish areas, scar tissue; N1

gbɛ́ogbɛ̀ - absolutely nothing

gbí - all, every

nâhǔgbí - in any case, however, ('in all that')

gbí.ì - not anything

gboji - plum; N1

gbókito - sandals (including tire tread sandals); N1, ir

also gbôkito

nikǎ-gɔlɔ-gbokito - cow skin sandals

gbóun - very much; Adv, id, s

gbowo - padlock; N1, ir

gbowo-ji.i - key to a padlock

gboyâ - sea, ocean; N1

gbɔ́gbɔ - (very) own (property); N2

not used in the definite when possessed

nyágbɔ́gbɔ-han.il.ɔ́ - It's my very own.

gbɔma - again; Adv, s

gbɔnda - trouble; N1

hindâ-gbɔnda - burden, worry

gbɔngbɔtɔ̂ - (species) very bitter citrus fruit; N1, ir

gbɔ.ɔn - again; Adv, s
also gbɔ̂.ɔn
`pé.egbɔ̀.ɔn! - Do it again!
gbûɛ́i - yesterday; Adv, t
geé - see yeé
gél.e - 1) chicken hawk, falcon; Nl
2) sore; Nl
gél.egênja - bicycle; Nl
gɛ - in the recent past; Adv, red
gɛmia - It was sometime ago.
gɛgɛ-mia, .ìwǎn.i - He came some time ago.
.ìwǎn.i`l.ɔ́, gɛgɛ - He came some time ago.
giígîi - hoop (for rolling); Nl
gil.i - see kpɛnî
gil.î - white ant; Nl
gôlo - May; Adv, t
gɔmá - (species) minister bird, crowlike scavenger; Nl
gɔmɔndɔ - slothful, centipedelike; Adv, red, s, ng
gɔ̂nɛ̂ - cat; Nl, v
gɔ.ɔféle - bicycle (two feet); Nl (from gɔw.ɔféle)
gɔ.ɔnáni - car (four feet); Nl (from gɔw.ɔnáni)
gɔɔ̂ta - gutter; Nl
gɔɔ̂tɔ - rope, hauser; Nl
guavá - guava; Nl
also guabá

-- H --

ha - female; Adj, at
tɛ́-hɛ.í - hen
haǎ - die; Vint, ng
hamǎ - rainy season, (haǎma)
haâka - load; Nl
haâka-popo - light load

há.âni - until, for a long time; Adv

`pé.ehá.âningí`wǎ! - Do it until I come!

hága - 1) lazy; Vint, ng

2) ragged; Vint, ng

hagá - carve; Vtr, ng

hagbě - rabbit; N1

hagbě-wol.o - 'kɔni' rabbit

hakâ - shinbone; N2, vob

háka - 1) ladder; N1

2) naked; (Vint, vb, mob, ng); Adj, mob, ng

maǎ-haka - a nude

hâkɛ - sin, curse; N1

also hakɛ̂

hâkɛ-hinda - sinful thing

hákpa - soup, (generic) plasas with greens; N1

njowǎ-law.a-hakpa - potato leaf soup

tangǎ-law.a-hakpa - cassava leaf soup

bɔndɔ́-hakpa - okra soup

ngengé-hakpa - greens soup

hakǔ - tortoise; N1

hakǔ-gɔndɔ - tortoise shell

hal.a - first; N1 (ha.al.a?)

see itá

see yelá

hal.a-yee.é - first kind

hal.ɛ.í - In the first place...

hál.e - medicine; N1; medicate; Vtr, ng

hál.e-mɔ - doctor

hál.e-wɛl.ɛ - hospital

hambô - yawn; N1; Vint, ng

hámi - desire, long for; Vint, fa, ng

ndɔɔ̌-hamil.ɔ́nyáma - I want some palm wine. ('Palm wine desire is on me.')

nyáhámingɔ̀`fa - I long for it.

han.ǐ - thing; Nl; (N2)
nyâhan.ǐ.í - sex organ
hapě - root; Nl
also hapǐ
tangǎ-hape - cassava root
mbaǎ-hape - rice root
nyɔɔ̌-hape - corn root
háwa - mow, rake, brush, trim, carve; Vtr, h, m, red, ng
kp hága
háw.ama - waistline; N2
heǐ - sit, marry; Vint, tr, -red, -redred, ng, ni
heǐ-wul.u - chair, bench
heǐnyɔ́ - neighbor
heǐmá - seat, place of the counting stone: heǐmásàwǎ - 3 times
tâ.á`heǐnì - He is sitting (seated).
hél.e - elephant; Nl
hél.egbɛ́mɔ̀ - elephant hunter
hengâ - dream; Nl; Vint, ng, la
hengâ-mɔ - dreamer
hɛ̂ - prayer; Nl
hɛ̂-wɛl.ɛ - church, mosque
hɛ̂-ma - praying place, grounds
hɛɛ̌ - death; Nl
hɛ́l.ɛ - 1) squat; Vint, ng, il
tâ.á`hɛ́l.ɛnì - He is stooping (stooped).
2) hang; Vtr, -red, ng, ni, il
hɛ́mu - torch, flashlight, firebrand, bundle of sticks for fire transfer; Nl
hɛ́mu-vol.o - torch light
hɛ́mu-wul.u - torch sticks
hɛǔ - Vtr, mob, ng
maǎhɛǔ - equalize
also hɔɔ̌
`pé.etǐmahú.íhɛ̀ǔ - Make their 'aboves' equal it.

hî.i - 1) plant, sow; Vtr, ng
2) Vtr, ndob, ng
ndáhî.i - to warn
ndǎ-hi.i - warning
hî - in this way (verb suffix)
also hî.i
hî.ina - that is so
hî.imía - that's the way
`pé.ehî.i - do it this way
higbɛ̌ - sicken; Vint, ng; sickness; Nl
higbɛ̌-mɔ - sick person
higbɔ̌ - (species) paper-nest wasp; Nl
higbɔ̌-taa - the wasp's nest
hiîndo - man, male; Nl, ir
hiîndo-lo - child, male; Nl
híkpɛ - groan, fret; Nl; Vint, -red
hîna - male; Adj, at
tɛ́-hina - rooster
hindâ - matter, business, place; Nl, m
maǎhindâ - business, worry
bímàǎhindâl.ɔ́nyáma - Your worry is mine.
hinî - husband; Nl
hinî-mɔ - one who has a husband; Nl
hinî-yaa - husbandhood
hitɛ̂ - come down; Vint, lower, sink (a post); Vtr, -red,ng
hitɛ̌ - (species) flying ant, (edible fresh hatched larvae), (immature gil.î); Nl
hitǐ - reach, ripen, arrive, mature (with plants); Vint, ng, at
híw.i - hill, mound, ant hill, Nl
also hígi
mbaǎ-hiwi - heap of rice
pupû-hiwi - ant hill
hiyǎ - husk; Vtr, ng

hiyě - get up, rise up, originate; Vint, ng

also hijě

bíhìyěng.amî`1.ɔ́ - where do you come from?

hoǐ - catch, hold; Vtr, m, h, -red, nga, nd, ng, la

also hoǒ

?maǎdíhòǐ - be enthusiastic, careful

maǎhoǐ - lay away (commercial)

maǎ-hoi-gɔpɔ - bond money

maǎ-wal.ihoǐ - argue, compete ('hold an argument, denial')

ngǐmaǎhoǐngɔ̀ - He is looking well. He fits the situation, job.

hǔhoǐ - restrain

ndáhòǐ - accept graciously

ndáhòǐ - stop (someone from) talking ('hold mouth')

maǎhoǐngɔ̀ - It is necessary.

maǎhoǐngɔ̀kɔɔ́... - It is fitting that...

hókpa - nostril, nose; N2

hókpô - navel; N2

hoǒ - hold, (see hoǐ)

hóta - guest, stranger, visitor; N1

hótal.ɔ́ngǐgɔ́w.ɔma - He has a guest. ('Guest is on his foot.') (Underfoot?)

hóta-wɛl.ɛ - guest house

hóta-mɔ - one who has a guest

hóta-vɔf.ɔ - (species) 'guest-fly' wasp

hɔ́l.ɔ - sew; Vtr, h, -red, ng

hɔ́na - 1) witchcraft; N1

hɔ́na-nyaha - witch

hɔ́na-mɔ - one who is considered to have supernatural powers

2) white fiber in (species) fish 'that gives it cannibalistic license'.

hɔndî - spinach type greens; N1

hɔw.ɔ̂ - stone; Vtr, m, h, -red, ng, il

maǎhɔw.ɔ̂ - plaster (house) with mud

hɔwɔ - ceremony, requiem ceremony; Nl

hɔwɔ-baa - rice for the ceremony

hú - in; Loc; elapsed time; Nl

ˋhúˋfel.é - twofold ('inside it is two')

huǎ - meat (not fish); Nl, (definite huɛ̌.í)

tɛ́-hua - chicken meat

nikǎ-hua - beef

mbalǎ-hua - lamb, mutton

huǎ-wulu - edible intestines

bɛɛ́si-hua - pork

dɔ̂wu-hua - duck meat

ndónda-hua - pork

húma - steal; Vtr, ng

húmawé.emɔ̀ - thief, person who does stealing

-- I --

itá - one, (used in counting); Numeral

see hal.a

see yel.á, see nge.lá

-- J --

já.a - touch; Vint, la, ng

tâ.áˋ já.ama.àX - He is touching X.

jagba - enameled steel basin; Nl

mbaǎ-jagba - rice basin

jagba-waa - big band at a social gathering

kɔ́ndɔ-jagba - rice basin for the hired rice farmers' noon meal

jahánâma - hell; Nl; Loc

also jahâma

jakî - cassava leaf soup (in compounds; consonant mutation is not regular; also sakî, when used alone)

jakîtɔ̂mbɔ - cassava leaf soup (no hyphenation)

jakó - small monkey; Nl

jâl.i - immobile, firm; (Vint, vb, ng, ya); Adj, ng, ya jambá - (Cannabis sativa) hemp; N1

    jambá-law.a - smoking hemp

jámbo - disgrace; Vtr, ng

    also sámbo (consonant mutation is not regular.)

jasí - snub, shrink from (somone); Vint, ma, ng

jáya - (species) white-barked tree used for firewood; N1

    jáya-wul.u - (species) wood

    jáya-gbembel.e - jáya plank

    jáya-gɔw.u - jáya firewood

    jáya-yɔmbu - fire of jáya wood (from ngɔmbŭ)

jɛînjɛ - rubber, (liquid) latex; N1

    jɛînjɛ-wul.u - rubber tree

jɛmɛtɛ - stimulus, action causing mass joy or alarm; N1

    also jɛmitɛ

    njɛpɛ̌.îgulăng.a.àjɛmɛtɛ - The talk has turned into a big thing.

jɛsîa - wander about; Vint, -red, ng

    ?from jiă-sia

jí - this

    jîva - because (for this)

    jíbɛ - although, since, even though

    jîbɛ́.ɛ - also, even this

    jígbê - this one, ('look at this')

    ?jîgbe - here is this

    jîtá - this very one

jiká - chigger; N1

    also sîka

jímɔ - (species) smallish wasp; N1

    jímɔ-taa - wasp's nest

jiw.î - key; N1

    gbowo-ji.i - padlock key

    pɛ́l.ɛ-ji.i.í - house key

jɔ́bɔ - 1) (species) rice; N1

    2) soaking wet; Adv, s

jɔwɔ́ - chain, necklace (anything with links); Nl, ir
húma-mɔ-jɔwɔ - thief chain
jɔwɔ́-yaa - enchained state
nduwɔ̌-jɔwɔ - slave chain
juju - become heavy; Vint, ng, ya
jujú - fetish, magic; Nl
jûma - Friday; Adv, t
jûmama - on Friday
juûmbu - sin; Nl

-- K --

ká - 1) dance, perform; Vtr, m, ng
2) very much; Adv, s, id, red, redred, redredred, non
kaâ - read, learn, study; Vtr, int, h, ng
kaâ-lopo - pupil
kaá-va.a - writing implement ('study point', cf. fál.a)
?kamɔ́ - teacher
ngǐgaângɔ̀ - He is educated.
kaǎ - dust, dirt, shells, peeling, rubbish; Nl
kaǎ-hiwi - rubbish heap
ká.a - Adv, id, redob, ng
ká.aká.a - round, circular
kâ.amaá - wonderful; Nf
kâ.amaá-mɔ - wonderful person
kabânde - miraculous; Adj, ng
kabânde-hinda - miraculous thing
káha - load, burden (carried on back or head); Nl
káha-mini - heavy load
kaîklo - ground squirrel; Nl, ir
kajumá - rascally; Nf
kajumá-mɔ rascal
kakǎ - go astray, lose the way; Vint*, ma, ng
* mutates to y or g
yakǎXma - miss X
kakǎ-lopo - lost child
kakǎmîa.ìpé.emà - It's getting lost he is doing.

káka - side; N2*
* mutates to y or g
kákama - on the side of
nyáyákama - on my side
kakâw.u - cacao; Nl
kakâw.u-law.a - cacao leaf
kakâw.u-hape - cacao root
kal.ǎ - fish trap fence; Nl, v (definite marker .v́ when l is deleted.)
kál.a - 1) bone, N2, v; seed; Nl, v
also kál.ɛ
nguǔ-gal.a - skull
nikǎ-gal.a - cow bone
huǎ-gal.a - meat bone
kál.ahu - strength, well-being
2) encircle, make a circle; Vtr, m, red, ng
kal.ǐ - snake; Nl
kál.i - become naked, bare, pale, dried out; Vint, m, redd, ng
maǎgál.i - dry, undernourished
kâl.i - hoe; Nl
kalǒ - basin, dish; Nl, ir
mbaǎ-galo - rice basin
mɛ̌hɛ̂-galo - food basin
káma - porro bush; Nl
kama - toward; Postposition
kámb.a - grave; Nl
kámb.a-jia - cemetery ('grave walk')
kamɔ́ - teacher, school master; Nl
cf. kaâ
káni - metal, money, ore, riches, diamonds, coin (but primarily metal); Nl
káni-gbɔl.u - gold ('red metal')
ngoligâni - earring
káni-gole - silver ('white metal')
kánibɔ́ - mining (of any substance, iron, diamonds etc.)

kánu - wind, turn, surround; Vtr, h, m, -redd, ng
        pel.ěhǔgánungɔ̀ - The road is bent.
kánya - 1) skinny; Vint, -redd, ng
        2) gonorrhea; Nl
kanyâma - window, peephole; Nl
kaŋá - box, case, chest; Nl, vob
        kulǎ-gaŋa - suitcase
        ngúl.ugaŋa - wooden chest
        kǎni-gaŋa - metal box
kaŋaǎ - small, edible, black, fresh water fish; Nl
kapǔ - grab, scramble for; Vtr, -redd, ng
        kapǔ-mɔ - grabby person
káso - cunning; Vint, redd, ng
katǎ - very large catfish; Nl
káta - compound, yard; Nl
        nikǎ-gata - cow corral
        mahǎ-gata - chief's enclosure
kâva - cheat; Vtr, ng
        also kâfa
        ngǐgâvangɔ̀ - He is a cheat. He is a sly or wicked person.
kawô - peal; Vtr, m, ng
kaye - rust; Nl
        also kp kayi
kayê - confession; Nl; blame, confess; Vint, la, ng
        kayêma - holy place, place of confession; Nl
        ?kayemá-yaa - holiness
kékema - scorpion; Nl
kél.e - wooden, slot drum; Nl
        ndolǐ-gel.e - dance drum
        ndopô-gel.e - child's drum
        kɔmɛ̂-gel.e - ceremonial drum
kêl.e - acrid, pungent, sour; Adj, ng, ya, non, red

kel.ǔ - faint from hunger; Vint, ng

kel.ǔ-mɔ - person who has fainted

kêna - man, respected, mature man; mister; N1 (honorific)

kênya - MoBr, FaBr; N3

kênya-yaa - unclehood

ketě - guinea corn; N1

k̀ɛ́ - father; N3* , (il?)

* nyák̀ɛ́ (¯ —) - my father (unique tone when possessed as an N3 noun)

also kɛ (N1)

kɛ - and, then ('that' in translations of some Mende sentences)

kɛ́ - 1) show, report; Vtr, h, ng

hǔgɛ́ - explain

kɛ́lɛ̂ - ('show right now') for example

2) but

kɛbí - blacksmith; N1

kênɛîkɛbí - Mr. Blacksmith

kɛɛ̂nga - perhaps

also tɛɛ̂nga, lɛɛ̂nga

kɛkɛ̌ - father; N3

also kɛkɛ

kɛkɛ-yaa - fatherhood

kɛ́kɛl.ɛ - fraction, half, particle; N1, v

?from kɛ́.lɛkɛ́l.ɛ (see kɛ́l.ɛ)

also kɛ́.ɛkɛ́.ɛ

kɛleé - except, unless

kɛleébí wǎ,ngá` lǐ` lɔ́ - Unless you come, I will go.

kɛ́l.ɛ - remnant, fraction (of liquids); N1, v

njaǎ-gɛl.ɛ - puddles left when a stream dries

kɛl.ɛ̂ - stop, cease, end; Vtr, int, ng

also kɛlɛ̂lɛ (reduplication?)

kɛl.ɛ̂-ma - stopping place

kɛnyɛ̂ - hack, chip, split; Vtr, h, m, -redd, ng kɛ́nyɛ - nation; Nl

kɛ́nyɛ-mɔ - foreigner

kɛ́nyɛ-yia - foreign word

kɛ́nyɛ-yɛpɛ - foreign language

kɛ́w.u - sit around the fire and warm up; Vint, ng

also kɛ́w.o

ngǐgɛ́w.ungɔ̀ - He is always warming himself. (He is chilly.)

kî - chess; Nl

kíâ - like

also síâ, kéâ

kíâ...Xnà - like X is

`kpɔlǔ,kíânyìkɔjînà - Redden it almost like this one.

kíâlé...Vla - just like...V-ing

mǔâ.á`pé.emà, kíâlétǐ`pé.emà`la - We do it like they do it.

kíânyìkɔ - almost like this

kíâlèéké - just like this, nothing more

kíabɛ́ - although

kíabɛ́bí.ìlìn.ì, ngábípàwa`l.ɔ́ - Although you didn't go, I'll pay you.

kíahǔnà - now ('inside now'); Adv, s

`pé.ekíahǔna - Do it now!

kiči(n) - kitchen; Nl, non

kijɛ̂ - rub; Vtr, int, h, m, ng

kíl.i - think, reason; Vint, la

tâ.á`gíl.ima`la - He is thinking about it.

kíl.i - round; (Vint, vb, red, ng, ya) Adj, red, ng, ya

kíl.ikíl.i-wɛl.ɛ - round house

kímbo - cricket; Nl

kimbô - belch; Nl; Vint, ng

kíni - Adv, id

also kéni

hâkɛ.ínásià, kíni... - all those things

yeépé.eyìi.î`l.ɔ́, kíni - This is how to do it.

hîmia.ì`pé.en.ì, kíni - This is how he did it.

kíti - decision, dilemma; N1; hard, difficult; (Vint, vb, ng) Adj, ng
kítiléw.e - decide ('cut') a dilemma
kítiléw.emɔ̀-waa.á - highest judge (definite) ('God')
kohǔ - inside, in the insides of; Loc, il; N2
?from koǒhu - in the belly
kohǔ-nεε - sweetness
kokó - 1) kokoyam; N1
kokó-pati - koko stew
kokó-gbuka - boiled chunks of koko
2) gourd or calabash used for palm wine collecting; N1
kóko - termite hill; N1
kókovaia - (species) rice; N1
also kokóvaia
kol.ě - clean, make white; Vtr, h, m, ng, at
káni-gol.e - silver ('white metal')
kol.ô - 1) driver ant; N1
also kow.ô (possible consonant crossover)
2) (species) lizard; N1
also kol.ê
kol.ǒ - fireplace; ember for cooking; N1
ngɔmbǔ-gol.o - fire embers
kól.o - 1) be obedient, docile; Vint, ng
kól.o-yaa- obedience
2) cask, barrel; N1
ko.lobɛ́ - (none) at all, (not) even a little; N1 (negative if verb is negative)
komâ - deprive others for your own benefit; Vtr, int, ng; greed; N1
nyágòmângɔ̀ - I am deprived. I always deprive.
kóma - cheek; N2
kómbo - scrape, scratch; Vtr, int, -redd, h, m, ng
kômbo - increase; Vtr, ng
komɛ̂ - meet, assemble; Vint, ng; fair, ceremony, celebration; N1
kóna - give account, audit, announce, present; Vtr, m, redd, ng
maǎgóna - give account (of)

kondâ - mortar (for grain pounding); N1

mbaǎ-gonda - rice mortar

nyɔɔ̌-gonda - corn mortar

kôngo - small room usually entered from the outside of the house; N1

kóni - ax; N1

kóni-wuu - ax head

ngúl.u-goni - wooden ax

kóni-wul.u - wood for an ax

kónungû - (species) poisonous centipede; N1

koǒ - belly; N2, v; conceive; Vint

koohǔ-nɛɛ - joy ('sweetness in the belly')

koǒwumbǔ - become pregnant ('take a belly')

koǒ-nyaha - pregnant woman

koôndé - butterfly; N1

kónu - erect fence or fish trap; Vtr, ng

kôti - court, legal case; N1

kôtiléw.e - make a decision

kóto - fold, bend; Vint, tr, -redd, ng

kɔ́ - 1) execute (do, fight, gamble); Vtr, ng

?kɔ̌-han.i - tool implement ('doing thing')

2) war; N1

kɔ́-han.i - weapon, machete ('fighting thing')

kɔ́-gugba - warrior

kɔ́-vula - fortified village

kɔ́-nyɔɔ - enemy

3) feed, support, nurture; Vtr, ng

kɔ̂ - 1) north

kɔ̂-baa - northern rice

2) taste, try on; Vtr, ng

pókɔ̂ - imitate; Vtr

?pókɔ̂ from wókɔ̂ from ngókɔ̂ ('taste voice')

kɔfí - coffee; N1

kɔkɔ̂ - find by surprise; Vtr, ng

kɔ́kɔ̂l.i - seek; Vtr, ng (? from kɔ̂l.ikɔ̂l.i, see kɔ̂l.i)
kɔkɔw.ɛ̂ - (species) bush fowl; N1
kɔl.ǎ - surprise; Vtr, int, ma, ng, il
kɔl.amá-mɔ - one who surprises
kɔl.amá-han.i - surprising thing
kɔlɛ̌ - divide, share; Vtr, -redd, h, nduahu, ng
kɔlɛ̌-kɔlɛ - distribute
`nduahúgɔ̀lɛ̌ - separate it
kɔlɛ̂ - temptation; N1
kɔ́lɛ - 1) cold, fever, chill, claminess of death; N1
kɔ́lɛ-vula - malaria
?kɔlɛ-yaa - coldness, aloneness (low tone)
2) tempt; Vtr, h, m, ng
kɔ́lɛ-yaa - temptation
hǔ-gɔlɛ - temptation
maǎ-gɔlɛ - temptation
kɔlǐ - iron; N1
also kɔlǔ
?kɔ̌-han.i - work implements (from kɔlǔ-han.i)
kɔ́l.i - leopard; N1
kɔ̂l.i - find, look for, pluck, pick; Vtr, ng
kɔlɔ̂ - skin; N2
kɔl.ɔ̌ - paper, book; N1
kɔl.ɔ̌-law.a - page of a book ('book leaf')
kɔlɔ - periwinkle; N1
kɔ́l.ɔ - know; Vtr, h, m, ng (low tone in negative when object is (in) another clause, e.g. tǐ.ì`kɔ̀l.ɔ.ɔ̀,kɛmǎ`pé.e`l.ɔ́) 'They do not know that we do it.' (past tense, present translation)
kɔmǐ - nasal mucous; N1
kɔ́mi - 1) lick; Vtr, m, h, nga, -redd, ng
2) honey, bee; N1
kɔ́mi-gɔmi - bee honey
kɔ́mî-gɔmi.í - the bee's honey supply
kɔ́mîgɔ́mi.í - the honey that the bee makes

kɔndî - snore; Vint, ng; N1

kɔndǐ - 'country' in kɔndǐ-gula 'country cloth' (see kulǎ)

kɔ́ndɔ - 1) food given to workmen at noon; N1

2) turtle, snail or clam shell

kɔnɛ̂ - please

kɔnɛ̂lé - I beg of you

kɔngâ - occiput; N2

kɔ́nyɔ̂ - friend; N1

kɔ̂ɔ - Vtr, hob

hǔgɔ̂ɔ - to try, taste, tempt

kɔɔ́ - in order that, so that, so as

kɔɔ̂wɛ́i - so that, (changes to kɔɔ̂)

kɔɔ́jîwɛ́i - so that

kɔɔ̂nga - crowd of men; N1, vob

kɔɔ̂tu - parting gift, end of the fire, N1

ngɔmbǔ-gɔɔtu - end of the fire (specific)

kɔ̂pɔ - money; N1; (and N1, non)

kp gɔ̂pɔ

kɔtǔ - stone; N1

kɔtǔ-wɛl.ɛ - stone house

kɔtǔ-val.a - stone ledge

kɔ̂vu - steam; Vtr, int, ng

kɔwɔ - 1) plant source of cord; N1, ir

2) log; N1, ir

kɔ́w.ɔ - foot; N2

kɔ́w.ɔ-yo - toes (yó from ló from ndó)

kɔw.ɛ̌.îtǐgɔ́w.ɔhu - They have shoes on.

kɔwɔ̌ - 1) shoe; N1

2) left; Vint, vb, ng

kɔwɔ̌ma - on the left side

ngǐgɔwɔ̌ngɔ̀ - He is left-handed.

3) trip; Vint, ng; Spring (a trap); Vtr, ng

kɔ̂w.u - box; Nl
kání-gɔw.u - metal box
ngúl.u-gɔw.u - wooden box
kɔw.ǔ - firewood; Nl
kɔ.ɔyɔ.ɔ - clumsy; Adv, id, s
kɔ.ɔyɔ.ɔ-mɔ - clumsy person
kpá - 1) become difficult; Vint, ng, (tonally kpâ when combined)
tâ.á`gbâma - It is becoming difficult.
`kpângɔ̀ - It is difficult. It is stuck.
?kpákpau - become hard, strong, (from kpáu.kpau)
2) Vint, ng, blink hard; Adv, id
kpa - debt; Nl
also kpaǎ
kpagbuǎ - pay ('release') the debt
kpa-yialě - collect a debt ('debt word say')
kpa-yialěmɔ̀ - debt collector
kpaâ - shrimp; Nl, vob
kpahâ - fail, give up, tire; Vint, ng
kpahâ-mɔ - a failure (person)
kpajǐ - slap, clap; Vtr, h, ng
ngǐwùǔ.í,`hǔgbajǐngɔ̀ - He is crazy. He is hot-tempered.
kpakal.i - tripod chair; Nl
ngúl.u-gbakal.i - wooden chair
ngeyǎ-gbakal.i - rope chair
ndúvu-gbakal.i - raffia chair
kpakî - shoulder; N2
also kpakǐ in kpakǐ-baa - armless shirt
kpako - adult; Nl; put on airs, act 'bigger than one's britches'; Vint
kpako-yaa - adulthood
kpakpǎ - become woody, fibrous; Vint, ng, at
tangǎ-gbakpa - woody cassava
kpákpa - nail, hammer; Vtr, ng
kpakpǎ-wul.u - ladder; Nl

kpal.ă - farm; N1, vob
mbaă-gba.a - rice farm
kpa.ă-be - dry farm, ready for harvest
njowŏ-gba.a - potato farm
but: ŋanyă-kpa.a.á - beach (no C mutation)
kpál.a - 1) unprocessed, crude, raw; (Vint, vb, ng, at) Adj, ng, at
2) upper leg, lap; N2, v
kpalɛ̂ - pain; N1; Vtr, int, ng
kpalɛ̂-ma - sore, skin ulcer
kpáma - suspenders; N1
kpáma-bɛl.ɛ - pants with suspenders
kpambî - line, letter, verse, ('pencil tracks'), trail, spoor; N1
kolô-gbambi - driver ant trail
huă-gbambi - game trail
kɔ́l.i-gbambi - leopard trail
kpanâ - (male name); N1
kpandɛ̂ - 1) gun; N1
ngɔmbŭ-gbandɛ - a 'real' gun
ngel.ĕ-gbandɛ - thunder ('sky gun')
2) shout at, bawl out ('shoot off mouth'); Vint, la
kpandǐ - heat up; Vtr, int, m, ng, at
maăgbandǐ - hurry up
kpángba - broom; N1
kpángba-val.a - broom fiber
kpángu - sande bush; N1
kpángûl.a - white rice (pounded while dry); N1
kpása - Adv, redob, ng, ya
kpásakpasa - bare
kpatɛ̂ - make, repair; Vtr, m, h, fa, kulɔ, ng; wealth; N1; become wealthy; Vint, ng
maăgbàtɛ̂ - prepare for
hŭgbàtɛ̂ - arrange
maăgbátɛ-hinda - preparation (tone?)
ku.lɔ̆gbátɛ - preparation in advance (tone?)

kpató - cutlass, machete; Nl, ir
kɔ́-gbato - war weapon
kpáu.kpau - become hard, strong; Vint, ng; blink hard; Adv, id (cf. kpá)
kpákpaun - firmly, solid; Adv, id, ya, s
kpáva - pocket, bag; Nl
kpavô - hop (up); toss up; Vint, tr, ng
kpaw.â - count; Vtr, ng
kpâw.o - howl, shout; Nl; Vint, ma, ir
kpaw.ǒ - bachelor; Nl, ir
kpaw.ǒ-yaa - spouselessness
kpaw.ô - catch; Vtr, ng
kpawɔ̌ - forked stick (to raise beams, snare birds); Nl
kpáw.u - bridge; Nl
kɔlǔ-gbaw.u - iron bridge
ngúl.u-gbaw.u - wooden bridge
kpayǎ - 1) head tie; Nl
2) become strong; Vint, ng; strength; Nl
.àkpayǎ - with strength
kpě - release, leave alone; Vint, ma, ng; stop; Vtr, ng
Xgběngɔ̀Yma - X is released from Y.
kpê - look at; Vtr, mahu, h,m, kulɔ, red, ng (possibly kpê.e)
mahúgbê - watch over, be careful
hǔgbê - investigate
ku.lɔ́gbê - expect, anticipate, look ahead
kpé.e - Vtr, mob, ng, concern; Nl
maǎgbé.e - serve, do one's duty
maagbe.el.ɔ́nyáma - There is something I must do. (?tone)
ngǐmaǎgbé.el.ɔ́nyáma - I need his service.
ngǐmaǎgbé.engɔ̀ - He is busy.
kpéin - size, of that size; Adv, id
kpekâ - razor, sharp knife used for shaving; Nl
kpékpe - good; Vint*, ng
* mutates to gb and y
kpekpe-yaa - goodness, kindness, (?tone)

kpe.lǎ - reach puberty, (for females); Vint, ng
kpe.lǎ-lo - first born, child, (either sex)
kpél.e - snarl, growl; Nl; Vint, ma, ng
kpel.ě - 1) time, instant, appointed time; Adv
2) refuse; Vint, ma, ng; refusal; Nl
kpénda - 1) break off, pluck; Vtr, ng
2) cysting worm (found in the flesh); Nl
ngî.la-gbenda - dog flesh worm
nyína-gbenda - rat flesh worm
kpéngba - be furious, act with violence, struggle violently; Vint, ng
kpéngi - sediment; Nl
ndɔɔ̌-gbengi - wine sediment
ngú.lɔ-gbengi - oil sediment
kpényɔ - screw up, squint eyes; Vtr, ng
kpetě - swamp (where rice is grown); Nl
also kpéte (in isolation)
kpétehu - (place name)
mbaǎ-gbete - rice-growing swamp
kpɛ́ - drive, chase; Nl; Vtr, m, h, ng
nyɛ́gbɛ́ - chase fish (into nets)
maǎgbɛ́ - drive away
pomámàǎgbɛ́ - (species) a plant used to fan flies away from a corpse, also a medicinal herb the vapors of which are inhaled.
kpɛgbɛ - comb; Nl
also kpɛkpɛ
kp gbɛgbɛ
ngúl.u-gbɛgbɛ - wooden comb
kɔlǔ-gbɛgbɛ - aluminum comb
kpɛin - all (day); Adv, s, id
fól.okpɛ̀in - all day
kpɛ́kpɛ - cockroach; Nl
kpɛ́kpɛ̂klɔki - person who is always on time for someone else's dinner; Nl

kpɛl.ɛ̌ - join (with people); Vtr, ma, ng

kpɛl.ɛmá-mɔ - one with whom you can associate

kpɛ́l.ɛ - all, every, everyone; N1, vob

kpɛl.ɛ̌ - beard; N2

kpɛl.ǐ - tremble; Vint, ng; shake, spin; Vtr, h, ng

hǔgbɛ̀lǐ - startle, frighten

kpɛmbô - judgement, decision; answer; N1

kp gbɛmbô

kpɛmbô-mɔ - judge

kpɛmbô-vol.o - judgement day

kpɛ́mbo - judge, question, answer; Vtr, ng

kpɛ́ndɛ - stunted; Vint; ng, at

kpɛndɛ̂ - delay, be late; Vtr, int, ng

ngǐgbɛndɛ̂ngɔ̀ - He has been held up.

kpɛnî - lizard; N1

gil.i-gbɛni - skink

kpɛ́ngbɛ̂ni - poison, be cruel; Vtr, ng

ngǐgbɛ́ngbɛ̂ningɔ̀ - He is cruel.

kpɛ́nyɛ - pound to grit size; Vtr, ng, at

mbaǎ-gbɛnyɛ - (rice) grits

kpi - black as can be; Adv, id

cf. kpíl.i

kpiǎ - pull out; see kpuǎ

kpíl.i - darken; Vint, tr, h, ng

ngǐhǔgbíl.ingɔ̀ - He is self-centered.

kpíndi - night, darkness; N1

kpindǐ-wɛl.ɛ - prison ('darkness house') (?tone)

kpíni - twist, wring; Vtr, h, -redd, ng; twist, coil (as a rope); Vint, ng

kpiti - tamper with, fiddle with, touch; Vint, ma

also kpitǐ

kpitǐ - grass; N1

kpitǐ-wɛl.ɛ - grass house

kpitǐ-be - dry grass

mbaǎ-gbiti - rice straw

kpíti - roll (dough in flour); Vtr, int, ng

kpláng.a - near; Loc

  most often seen as kpla.á

kpó - manure; N2

  kpôma - buttocks (vulgar), (tone?)

  kpó-yaa - diarrhea (from njaǎ)

kpôji - kokoyam; N1

kpól.e - 1) unripe, green (not the color); Vint, ng, ya

  2) intention; N1

  .àkpól.e - intentionally

kpól.i - river, stream, narrow part of the stream, bend in the stream; N1

  also kpól.u

kpolǐ - worm; N1

kpol.ǒ - salt; N1

  also kpol.o

  kp kpulǔ

kpóngbo - rub, iron (clothing), grind, pulverize; Vtr, ng

  kulǎgbóngbogɔ̀lu - an iron

kponyɛ̂ - grumble; Vint, la, ng; N1

  tâ.á`gbonyɛ̂ma.àX - He is grumbling about X.

kpóta - female genital; N2

kpotǒ - become plentiful; Vint, ng, at

  kpotǒma - very many

kpow.a - non-initiated person; N1

kpów.a - be crazy; Vint, ng; craziness; N1

kpów.o - ankle; N2, ir; ankle rattle; N1, ir

  kp kpúw.u

kpɔ́ - help; Vint, ma

  tâ.á`gbɔ́maXma - He is helping X.

  kpɔmá-mɔ - helpful person

kpɔhǔ - rice, corn flour; N1

kpɔkɔ̂ - evening; N1

kpɔ́kpɔ - hammer; N1

kp kpɔ́gbɔ

ngúl.u-gbɔkpɔ - wooden mallet

kɔlǔ-gbɔkpɔ - iron-headed hammer

kpɔkpɔ́l.i - leprosy; N1

kpɔ́ku - new growth, shoot; N1; sprout; Vint

mbaǎ-gbɔku - rice sprout

pîa-gbɔku - avocado sprout

tangǎ-gbɔku - cassava sprout

kpɔl.ǐ - swallow, drink, smoke (a pipe); Vtr, ng

kpɔl.ǐ-han.i - something to drink

kpɔl.ǔ - become red, ripen, mature, arrive; Vint, ng, at

kpɔmba - hostage; N1

kpɔndâ - 1) squeeze (into), force; Vtr, int, h, m, -red, ma, ng, il

ngǐwól.ihǔgbɔndângɔ̀ - He is stubborn. ('His ears are squeezed.')

ngɔl.ihǔ-gbɔnda - stubbornness (?tone)

kpɔndǎ-kpɔnda - force in more and more

2) pursue, persist, insist; Vint, ma, ng

ngǐgbɔndângɔ̀`ma - He is forcing himself on it, persisting in it.

kpɔndamá-mɔ - one who insists on things, one you can rely on

kpɔnɔ - brain, marrow, joint; N2

kpɔ́ngbɔ̂ni - palsy, convulsions; N1

kpɔnǐ - male genital; N2

kpɔnǐ-galɛ - testicle

kpɔnigojo - egg plant; N1

kpɔnyɔ - punish, torment; Vtr, non, ng

kpɔtɔ - make gravy; Vtr, ng; palm oil froth; N1

tâ.á`nyɛ́.îgbɔtɔmà - She is cooking the fish well. (?doing it up brown)

kpɔ́tu - thick (not liquids) coarse; Vint, -red, non, ng, ya

kpɔvɔ - young growth, shady growth; N1

kpɔvɔ̂ - become healthy, flourish; Vint, ng, at

ngúl.u-gbɔvɔ - healthy tree

kpɔw.ǔ - shut, bury; Vtr, m, ng
ndǎ-gbɔw.u - a cover, lid (also ndǎ-gbɔl.i)
ndágbɔ̀w.ǔ - cover the mouth (of it)
kpɔ́yɔ - cowrie shell; N1, ir
kpɔyɔ̂ - finish, complete; Vtr, ng; die; Vint
kpû - attic granary; storage hut on farm; N1
nyɔɔ̌-gbu - corn granary
mbaǎ-gbu - rice granary
kpuǎ - pull out, undress, undo; Vtr, -red, m, il, ma, ng; Vint, la, ng, il
kpuǎ-kpua - pluck (over and over) i.e. feathers
maǎgbuǎ - pluck, criticize ('pick at')
maǎ-gbua - criticism
tâ.á`gbuǎma.àX - He is taking it out.
`kpuǎ`ma! - Separate it! (from it)
kpuamá - separation
nyágá.ahugbùǎngɔ̀ - I am well.
kpuâ - farm house, farm; N1
kpuhǎ - body, type of build, stature; N2
kpujâ - jump down; Vint, ng, il; Vtr, ng
pɛ́l.ɛ.îgbujâ - lay the house foundation
kpukɔ̌ - bed; N1
ngúl.u-gbukɔ - wooden bed
kɔlǔ-gbukɔ - iron bed
kpitǐ-gbukɔ - grass bed
kpûl.a - misfire, misthrow, make a mistake; Vint, maob, ng
tâ.á`gbûl.ama`ma - He is making a mistake.
kpulǎ - big storage calabash; N1
kpû.lɔ - (species) large woodpecker; N1
kpú.lɔ - hump, bump, knot; N1
kpu.lɔ̂ - tie; Vtr, -red, -redred, ng
kpul.û - cache, nook, cave; N1
nyɛ́-gbul.u - fish cache
kɔ̂pɔ-gbul.u - money cache
kpundɔ̂ - danger, accident, trouble; N1
kpundɔ̌hu - south (?tone)

kpúnyɛ - charcoal; N1
kpúta - puncture; Vtr, h, ng
kû - assigned land, portion of land; N1
kú - 1) smell; N1; Vtr, h, m, nga, ng
kúmɛ̀nǐ - to smell ('hear an odor')
`kúngɔ̀ - It stinks. ('It is smelled.')
2) day
kúgbima - all day, often, everyday
kútɛ̀ɛ̂ngama - sometimes, somedays
kû - become sufficient, able, enough; Vint
kual.ǎ - monkey; N1, v
kuǎn-bla.a - Fula people
kuɛtɛ́ - sorcery; N1
kuɛtɛ́-hinda - superstition
kuɛtɛ́-mɔ - superstitious person
kúgba - warrior, giant, hero; N1
kúgba-gbandɛ - warrior's gun
kúgba-yaa - warriorhood
kúgba-bogba - warrior's machete
kúgbe - hired (rice) farm help; N1
kúgbe-lanya - farmer's arm band
kûha - become tall; Vint, m, h, ng
`hú.ɛ̀gûha - It will not be long.
kûhama - far away
hǔ-guha - length
kulǎ - 1) cloth; N1
2) drop; Vtr, -redd, ng, il; fall; Vint, -redd, ng, la
gulǎ.àX - to grow into X, precipitate into
ku.lo - a little bit; N1, ir
kû.lo - become small; Vint, red, ng, at*, ir
* kû.lo becomes wol.o or wul.o when attached to nouns by a hyphen
ku.lɔ́ - before, in front of; Loc; the front of; N2
ku.lɔ́mà - in front of, in the future

kúl.u - embrace, hug, receive, accept; Vtr, int, ma, ng
tâ.á`gúl.umaXma - He is consenting to X.
kûl.u - shed (bathing, latrine, goat); Nl
muâ-gul.u - bathing shed
njé-gul.u - goat shed
nikă-gul.u - cow shed
kúna - in the future; Adv, s
kúnafɔ́ - forever
kúndɔ - corner hiding place; Nl
found only with hu: kúndɛ.îhu
kûsi - cushion; Nl, non
kútu - become short; Vint, redd, ng, ya, at
kuw.ú - home, house; Nl
always used with hu: kuw.ú.îhu or ku.úhu
kuyɔ - be pompous; Vint, ng; Adv, id, s, ng

-- L --

lahâdi - Sunday; Adv, t
lal.a - oar, paddle; Nl, v
lále - (species) fruit seed used for fingernail polish; Nl
lál.i - heed, accept, consent; Vint, ma, ng
lanyâ - wrist band; Nl
lánya-yia - words to be believed in
lánya-yaa - belief
lási - sort, kind, type; Nl
yeélásigbí.ìnà - That kind isn't here.
lasimɔ́ - good fortune amulet (inscription wrapped tightly in string); Nl
lával.e - chief's speaker; Nl
see vál.e
lával.e-yaa - speakerhood
lek.é - only
tâlek.é-miawăn.i - He only came.
kíâlek.é - just like, only
lel.emá - praying mantis; Nl
lén - straight; Adv, id

léngi - lanky, spindly, slim, tall; (Vint, vb, red, ya) Adj, redid, ya

lɛ - 1) Adv, s, id, redob

lɛlɛ - slowly

2) yet, now; for now; Adv, s

àmǔ`yɛpɛ̌lɛ̀ - Let us talk for awhile.

lɛ́nà.á - for now

also na.álɛ̀

lɛ̂ɛ - now, see lɛ

lɛw.ɛ - powdered rice made into a dough for sacrifices; N1

hɔwɔ-lɛw.ɛ - cakes for hɔwɔ ceremony

sâ-lɛw.ɛ - sacrifice cakes

ligbil.i - cloudiness, darkness; Vint, ng, ya; Adv, id, ya

likɔ̂tɔ - charm, fetish, love charm, love potion; N1, ir

lolɛ́ - how many

.ì`lolɛ́ - How many of it?

lɔntima - nail, screw; N1

also lɔndima (?nt cluster)

lɔ́.ɔ̂lu - five; Num, ir

lɔ́w.ɔ - day (time period); N1

lûba - bless; Vtr, ng; blessing; N1

lubâ - bless; Vtr, ng

lúgbu - dew; N1

lúgbu-yaw.u - November ('dew month')

lumbê - orange (sometimes any citrus); N1

lumbê-nyɛnyɛ - lime or lemon

lûmu - room; N1

luvê - Vtr, mob, hob, ng

cf. wuvê

maǎluvê - to exchange

maǎ-luve - an exchange

hǔluvê - to exchange

-- M --

maâkpɔ́ - mix; Vtr, ng

maâna - banana; N1

mană-waa - plantain (?tone)

maâtó - add to, increase; Vtr, ng (? from maă toŏ)

maâwól.o - wait for; Vtr (usually maâwó.o)

mahă - chief, head; N1

mahă-bul.u - the trumpet that announces the chief

mahă-gal.i - (species) snake, ('chief's snake')

mahă-nyahalo - chief's daughter

mahă-yaa - chieftancy

mahă-waa - paramount chief

mahă-wul.o - sub-chief, section chief (mahă-wo.o)

mahă-wuu - chiefdom ('head')

mahú - on top of; Loc, il; upper terminal, top, height; N2

maăjiă - sell; Vtr

cf. siă - 'walk' (formally related, semantic relation unclear)

makɛ̂ - manners, upbringing; N1

makɛ̂-hinda - behavior

mákɛ - train, bring up; Vtr, ng

mal.ɛ̌ - meet; Vtr, ng

mál.i - longing; N1

mal.êka - angel; N1

also mal.îka

mamă - grandmother; N3

also mama, mamâ

mam.âdá - grandfather; N3

mană-waa - plantain; N1

mandă - benni seed; N1

also manda

mandă-gbu - benni seed granary

mandă-vuka - pounded benni seed

mandă-gbɔhu - benni seed flour

manɛ́.ɛ - spy, watch; Vtr, m, h, ng
ngǐmanɛ́.ɛngɔ̀ - He spys.
?maǎnɛ́h.ɛ (see nɛ́h.ɛ)
manɛ̂.ɛ - spying; N1
?maǎ-nɛh.ɛ (see nɛ́h.ɛ)
manɛ̂.ɛ-bla.a
manî - (plant fiber) snare; N1
manîyátɛ́ - set a trap (ngá tɛ́)
manîyátɛ́mɔ̀ - trapper
huǎ-mani - game snare
mán.i - long for; Vtr, ng, int, fa; desire; N1, m
maǎ-man.i - pride, foolishness
manyâ - burnt food (stuck to the pot); N1
mbaǎ-manya - burnt rice
manga - Adv, redob, ng, ya, id, s
manga-manga - rougueish, frisky
mângo - mango; N1, ir
manǔ - pity, forgive, sorrow over; Vtr, mob; Vint, ma, ng
manumáyɛ̀ngǐma - Pity be on him.
ngǐmaǎmanǔngɔ̀ - He is sorrowful.
mawá - (species) very tall palm tree; N1, v
mbâ - fellow sande society member; N3
mbaǎ - does not occur as a verb, see baǎ
mbaǎ - rice; N1
mbaǎ-gɛ.í - rice husk
mbaǎ-gbɛnyɛ - 'grits' (rough pounded rice)
mbaǎ-gbɔl.u - red rice, rice with palm oil for hɔwɛ.í
mbaǎ-yeje - stale rice
mbaǎwú - plant rice
mbaǎgulǎ - sow rice
mbaǎléw.emɔ̀ - rice cutter
mbaǎvâl.imɔ̀ - rice planter
mbaǎ-gbala - unprocessed rice
filǐ-baa - (species) rice

mbaâ - male companion, buddy; N3, vob
mbafǎ - does not occur, see bafǎ
máîsi - matches; N1
mbáji - does not occur, see báji
mbakǎ - organ, harmonica, accordian; N1
  mbakǎwó.í - the accordian's (own) voice
mbalǎ - sheep; N1
mbále - rattan loop used for climbing palm trees; N1
mbalǐ - vomit; N1; Vint, la
mbalǔ - cane (for beating); N1, ir
mbatû - praise; Vtr, ng
mbatú - praise; N1, ir
mbawa - big, very much; N1, vob
  yeémbàwa.á - the big one
mbawâ - a cake of soap; N1
  muâ-bawa - bathing soap
  sôda-bawa - lye soap
  pu-bawa - imported, scented soap
mbáwo - save, rescue; Vtr, ng
  mbáwo-mɔ - the savior
mbé - become dry; Vint, ng, at; dry out; Vtr
mbéi - here; Loc (cf. béi)
mbekě - brush, branch; N1
mbê.la - father, brother-in-law; N3
mbé.la - tear, beat, flog; Vtr, h, m, ng
mbe.lɛ̂ - carry things from place to place, haul; Vtr, ng
mbembě - lady's fishing net; N1
mbémbê - circle, surround; Vtr, m, ng (?mbé, -redob)
mbɛl.ɛ̌ - honor, care, hospitality; N1; Vtr, mob
  mbɛl.ɛ̌hoǐ - 'hold' hospitality, be hospitable
  maǎbɛ.ɛ̌ - watch with care

mbɛl.ǐ - 1) dry out, drain; Vtr, int, ng
ngǐbɛl.ǐngɔ̀ - He is moneyless.
2) be skilled; Vint, ng
also mbɛ.ɛ̌
ngǐbɛl.ǐngɔ̀ - He is skilled.
mbɛmbɛ́ - ease, cuddle; Vtr, ng, (?mbɛ̌, redob)
mbɛtɛ̌ - farm watch tower, napping place; N1
mbí.la - tear, beat, flog, (see mbé.la)
mbi.lɛ̂ - carry, haul, (see mbe.lɛ̂)
mbil.î - drum; N1
mbimbî - planting heap, pile of dirt; N1 (?mbǐ, redob)
mbaǎ-bimbi - pile for rice sprouting
njowǒ-bimbi - pile for potato growing
mbiyɛ̂ - a name; N1
mbiyɛ - name; N2
mblɔɔ̌ - male genital; N1, ir
mbô - shoot, fire (shoot at), urinate; Vtr, ng
mboǒ - starchy food prepared from ground cassava; N1
mbogbá - machete; N1
mbolě - become blind; Vint, ng
mbolě-mɔ - blind person
mból.o - 1) neck; N2
mbol.ǒ-gutu - (species) short necked rice (?tone)
2) (species) short, red, freshwater fish; N1
3) palm heart; N1
mbomǎ - net, hammock, trap; N1
mahǎ-boma - chief carrying hammock
kpɛ́-boma - hunting net
nyɛ́gbɛ́bòma - fish catching net
mbondâ - family, kinsman; N2, v
mbovâ - float; Vint, tr, ng
mbówa - knife; N1
kɔlǔ-bowa - iron knife
mbaǎléw.ebòwa - rice cutting knife

mboyâ - small serving of clear meat broth; N1
(? from mbo, njaǎ)
mbɔ́ - pierce, inject, penetrate, dig; Vtr, h, m, ng; dig something out of something; Vtr, h, m, ng, il
mbɔl.ǐ - female genital; N2
mbɔnɔ - does not occur, see bɔnɔ
mbɔɔ̌ - honey, dear; N1 (opposite of ndakâ, 'buddy')
mbû - owl; N1
mbu - underneath, under; N1; Loc
mbúmbu - tunnel shaped fish trap; N1
mbumbǔ - pick up, take, lift; Vtr, ng (mutates to w)
kɔl.ɛ̌.îwumbǔ - Take the book!
mɛ̌ - eat; Vtr, redred, ng
mɛ̌-han.i - food (often mɛ̌hɛ̂)
mɛmɛ̌-mɛmɛ - eat (everything in sight)
mɛ̌.àngúndu - eat (something) raw
mɛl.ǐ - graze (grass); Vint, ng
`mɛl.ǐngɔ̀ - It is gluttonous.
mɛmɛ - mirror; N1
mɛn.ǐ - hear; Vint, ng; Vtr, hob, ng
hǔmɛn.ǐ - listen to
mî - where?
mîgbe - when?
miîji - needle; N1
soso-miiji - Susu (large) needle
pu-miiji - imported (fine) needle
minǐ - 1) become heavy; Vint, ng, ya, at
2) bead; N1
also mini
mitǎ - spoon; N1
pu-mita - imported spoon
mɛndé-mita - Mende iron (etc.) spoon
mɛ̌hɛ̂mɛ̌mìta - food eating spoon
mɛ̌hɛ̂yíl.imìta - food cooking spoon

mɔ̀ - person, agent; (plural bla.a)

mɔ́ - 1) burn, roast, hurt; Vtr, -red, -redred, h, m, ng

mɔ́-mɔ - roast (again and again)

2) mɔ́ - black as can be; Adv, id, red

mɔl.î - question; Nl; ask or call; Vtr, h, ng

hǔmɔl.î - ask about

mɔ̂l.i-mɔ - muslim; Nl

also mɔ̂le-mɔ

mɔ́nɛ - trouble; Nl; worry, trouble; Vtr, ng

ndǐ-mɔnɛ - worry, heart worry

mɔ́n[illegible]-mɔ - troubled person

mɔmɔnyâ - lady finger banana; Nl, vob

mɔnǔ - surplus; Nl; Vint, ng

mɔɔ̂tu - burnt off area used for a farm

see mɔ́

mɔ.ɔtɔ.ɔ - chewy; Adv, red, ng, ya

mɔtó - car, lorry; Nl, ir

.àmɔtó - by way of car, lorry; also figuratively by foot using tire tread sandals

muâ - bathe; Vtr, ng; bath; Nl

muɛ̂.í - (definite)

mumǔ - become dumb, speechless; Vint, ng

mumú - dumb (speechless) or offbeat person; Nl

múmu - become small (bits); Vint, ng, at, ya

-- N --

na - 1) there; Loc

2) thus, as

3) 'is'

ná.âmu - yes

ná.âni - four; Num

nâfal.ê - raffia clothed clown; Nl

nafâ - benefit, blessing, profit; Nl; profit from; Vtr, ng

náhî - so that

náhî.í - that which

námu - slip; Vint, red, ng
nanɔ - July; Adv, t, ir
navó - money; N1
ndá - 1) mouth, opening; N2
ndǎ-han.i - meat (mouth thing) (?tone)
ndá-gul.u - lips ('mouth fence')
ndaâya - spittle (?tone)
2) at the mouth of; Loc
3) name; N2
bílɛ́.í - What is your name?
4) put, place, lay; Vtr, h, ng, il, ni
tone laǎ: .ìlaǎn.ì`l.ɔ́ - He is lying down.
ndá-ma - sleeping place
hǔlá - spread out
nda - own; N1, non
nyâ-ndɛ.i - my own
ndaâya - spittle; N1 (?from ndá, njaǎ)
ndahɛ̂ - promise; N1
ndahɛ̂wumbǔ - make a promise
ndakâ - buddy, fellow; N1 (opposite of mbɔɔ̌, 'sweetheart')
ndakpâ - 1) mature, grow (with people); Vint, ng, at
2) companion; N1
ndakpâ-wol.o-yaa - youth, early manhood
ndál.a - sketch, draw, drag; Vtr, h, ng, il
hǔlál.a - stretch out
`ndál.a`kpla.á - Sketch it near it!
`ndàl.a`kpla.á - Pull it near it!
ndál.i - does not occur, see lál.i
ndámba - crocodile; N1
ndápi - swim; Vint
ndapǐ - fight, try; N1; Vint, la, fa
lapǐ.àX - fight with X
lapǐXvâ - try to do X (X - verb)
lapǐ.àXYvâ - fight X for (the sake of) Y

ndatǎ - 1) slap; Vtr, h, ng
2) vein, muscle; N2
ndáve - fill; Vint, tr, h, ng
ndavúla - sling; N1
huǎgbɛ́làvula - game sling
ŋɔnǐgbɛ́làvula - bird sling
ndáw.a - leaf; N1, v
ndáw.o - open; Vtr, h, m, Vint, ng (?from ndá ngól.o - 'mouth break')
ndě - say; Vtr, ng
ndé - give birth; Vtr
ndé-mɔ - parent, (also savior, see mbáwo)
ndégbe - eel, catfish; N1
ndége - pubic hair; N2
also ndéga
ndemǎ - forget; Vint, ma, ng
lemǎXma - forget X
ndendê - walk, stand on tip toes; Vint, -redd
ndew.ě - beat, flog; Vtr, h, m, ngumba, ng
hǔlew.ě - beat something out of something
ndêw.e - brother; N3, vob
also ndew.e, ndêw.é
ndew.e-wol.o - younger brother
ndew.e-waa - older brother
ndɛ́.ɛ-deceive, lie; N1; Vint, ngaob, ng
lɛ́.ɛgùlǎ - tell a lie
ndɛ́.ɛgùlǎmɔ̀ - liar
ndɛ́kpɛ - lean, tilt; Vint, -redd, ng
ndɛkpû - limp; Vint
ndɛ́l.i - wet, temper (with water); Vtr, nga, ng, at
ngálɛ́l.i - cool down ('soak the head' of an issue)
ndɛ́mbi - stay long, live long; Vint, ng
ngǐlɛ́mbingɔ̀ - He is long-lived.
`hú.ɛ̀lɛ́mbi - It won't be long. (from wátihu)

ndɛndɛ̌ - boat; N1

bomu-lɛndɛ - Sherbro boat

ndɛndɛ́l.i - shade; N1

ndɛngɛ - unsteady; Adv, id, red, ng, ya

ndɛvû - breath, life; N2; rest; Vint, ng

ngĭlɛvûngɔ̀ - He is rested.

ndĭ - go; Vint, la, ng, li

tâ.á`lĭma`la - He is taking it. ('go with')

ndí - heart; N2; Vtr, mob

also ndímâ

ndíma - chest

nyálímahìndal.ɔ́ - I like it.

ngĭlímâgbángɔ̀ - He is strong-hearted.

ndimă-gba - brave, strong-hearted (?tone)

also dí in nyádígbùăngɔ̀ - I am disgusted.

líma - beloved, favorite (?mutation)

límamɔ̀ - beloved person (?mutation)

núm.uli.îhu - stretched arm's length, two yards (?tone)

ndía - in the middle of; Loc

ndíamɔ - friend; N3

ndikpă - bow and arrow; N1

ndikpăyá - arrow's point

ndikpɔ̌ - walking stick; N1

also tíkpɔ, (possible consonant mutation crossover)

ndilê - anger; N1

ndíle - 1) get angry; Vint, ng, (? from ndíléw.e 'heart cut')

2) python; N1

ndil.î - fly; N1

ndímba - spin (thread); Vtr, h, ng

also tímba

ndivâl.i - broom; N1, (same broom as kpángbɛ.í) ndó - 1) want, like; Vint, la, ma, ng

ndomá-hinda - love affair

mɔtó.íjîlóngɔ̀.íjìǎtǐwumbá - This car is about to (wants to) run over them.

2) ndó - child; N1, ir

ndó-la.a - infant (crawling child); (N1) vob

3) be lost, lose; Vtr, int, huob, ng

ndohú-mɔ - lost person

4) leave something; Vtr, ng; remain; Vint

ndokě - to settle, clear, purify (of liquids); Vint, ng, at

ndóla - grow; Vint, ng

ndól.e - clear (the bush for a farm); Vtr, ng

ndól.e-gbel.e - bush clearing time

ndó-kaa - area cleared for the farm, (from ndól.e kaǎ)

ndól.i - (fishing) hook; N1

nyɛ́gbɛ́lòl.i - fish catching hook

pu-lol.i - imported hook

ndol.ǐ - dance; N1; Vint

ndomǎ - shirt, gown, dress; N1

ndónda - pig; N1

ndóndo - get quiet; Vint, ng

?tǐâ.á̀ ndondogómahòǐmà - They are holding malice (against one another.

ndondǒ-goma - malice ('silent cheek') (?tone)

ndondǒgóma - malice (?tone)

ndopố - child; N1

ndopô-wol.o-yaa - boy, childhood

ndovǒ - frog; N1

ndów.a - hole, well; N1

nyína-low.a - rat hole

kaîklo-low.a - squirrel hole

ndów.o - horn; N1, ir

ndɔgbɔ̌ - forest, bush; N1

ndɔkɔ̌ - a post; N1

ndɔkû - released flatulence; N1

ndɔl.ɛ̌ - hunger; Nl
ndɔ́mbu - dive, sink, submerge; Vtr, int, ng
ndɔ́ndɔ - 1) lend, borrow; Vtr, ng
2) millipede; Nl, ir
ndɔɔ̂ - Vtr, ngaob, ng
ngándɔ̀ɔ̂ - collect together (people and things)
ndɔɔ̌ - wine; Nl, ir
tɔ́kpɔ-lɔɔ - palm wine
pu-lɔɔ - whiskey, gin, etc.
ndɔɔ́l.ɔ̂ - world, earth, ground, floor; Nl (often ndɔ.ɔ̂)
definite: ndɔ.ɛ̂.ɛ́ and ndɔɔ́l.ɛ̂.í
ndɔɔ́l.ɔ̂kândɛ - prime minister
ndɔvɔ̌ - (species) insect; Nl, (? from ndɔɔ̌-vɔf.ɔ)
ndɔ́vɔ - bad luck; Nl; become unlucky; Vint, ng
ndɔwû - hide; Vint, tr, h, ng, ma
nduahú - between
ndúla - rot; Vint, at, ng
ndulû - smoke; Vtr, ng
ndulǔ - smoke; Nl
tawǎ-lulu - tobacco smoke
ngɔmbǔ-lulu - fire smoke
nduvâ - pass the day; Vint
also tuvâ, (possible consonant mutation crossover)
ndúvu - raffia, raffia tree; Nl
ndúvu-yala - raffia mat
ndúvu-gbakal.i - raffia tripod chair
nduvǔ - ashes; Nl
ndúw.a - fear; Nl; Vint, ma, ng
lúw.aXma - fear X
nduwǎ - become cooked just right; Vint, ng, at
.àluwǎ`l.ɔ́ - It can be cooked to perfection. (future tense)
tangǎ-luw.a - cassava cooked to perfection
nduwɔ̌ - slave; Nl, ir
nduwɔ̌-yaa - slavery
ndúw.u - body, flesh, skin; N2, ir

nɛ́ - 1) tongue; N2, vob

2) to boil; Vtr, h, ng

nɛɛ̂si - pineapple; N1

nɛɛ̌ - become sweet; Vint, ng, at, vob

nɛɛ̌-yii - way of sweetness

nɛ́h.ɛ - linger in order to be invited to dinner; Vtr, ng

nɛ́h.ɛ-mɔ - pot watcher

cf. maǎnɛ́.ɛ

nɛ́ma - luck; N1

nɛmâ - N1, (requires hu)

nɛmâhu.í - (definite), mind

nɛmâhuléw.engɔ̀ - brain is sharp

nɛmakɔ̂l.i - practice; Vtr, ng

nɛmû - wound; Vtr, ng

nɛnɛ̂ - Vint, mob, ng (nɛɛ̌, red)

maǎnɛnɛ̂ - beg, ask pardon ('sweeten on him')

maǎ-nɛnɛ - pleading

nɛnɛ - shadow, picture; N2, v

nɛpɔ̌ - comfort, cradle, rock; Vtr, ng

nɛsí - (female name)

nɛ́si - (perfumed) potion of Arabic inkwashings from writing slate; N1

ngá - 1) point, edge, end; N2

ngáhàǎngɔ̀ - The edge is dull. (dead)

ngáhèǔngɔ̀ - The edge is equalized. (hammered thin)

2) onto, upon; Loc

ngándíngɔ̀ - It is sharpened. ('a point has come')
(no C mutation)

ngá.a - sing; Vtr, ng

ngol.ɛ̌îyá.a - sing a song

ngafâ - devil, spirit; N1

ngafǎ - speak evil about; Vtr, m, ng

ngǐyafǎngɔ̀ - She is a gossip.

ngákpa - sharpen on a stone; Vtr, int, ng

ngáku - crab; N1

ngál.a - mat; Nl, v
kulǎ-yal.a - rug
fál.a-yal.a - fiber mat
ndúvu-yal.a - raffia mat
kpitǐ-yal.a - grass mat
ngál.i - break (in two); Vtr, int, -redd, ng
ngál.i-ngal.i - break into many pieces
ngalî-mɔ - blacksmith; Nl
ngalîbu - blacksmith shop
ngal.î - thorn; Nl
ngâma - eye, face; N2
ngâma-yombo - eyelash
ngâma-gal.a - eyeball
ngamǎ - return; Vtr, ma, la, ng; Vint, il
also ngama; Vtr, ma
YyamǎXma - return Y to X
ngaw.ú - bush yam; Nl
ngáw.u - 1) moon; Nl
2) egg; Nl, N2
ngéngáw.u - fingernail
tɛ́-yaw.u - hen egg
dɔ̂w.u-yaw.u - duck egg
ŋɔnǐ-yaw.u - bird egg
ŋɔnǐ.îyáw.u.í - bird's egg
3) month; Nl
also ngál.u, (possible consonant crossover)
ngayâ - tears; N2
ngeě - take, lift; Vtr, ng
ngeênda - morning; Nl (? from ngel.ě ndá 'sky opening')
ngéja - right; N2
ngejě - become stale, leftover (cooked food left overnight); Vint, ng, at
ngé.la - one; Num, red, usually in mutated form yelá
also ngí.la
ng.láng.lá - one by one

ngel.ê - fry; Vint, tr, ng
ngél.e - scar, ulcer; Nl
ngel.ě - sky; Nl
ngel.ěya - upward (on the sky) (nga, Loc)
ngel.ěîya - upward; Adv
ngel.ěgohú - heavens, in the sky
ngel.ě-gbandɛ - thunder ('sky gun')
ngel.ě-vol.o - dry season ('sky light')
ngénja - right; Loc
ngénjahu - on the right
ngengě - work; Nl; Vint, ng
ngengl.é - (bush okra) edible greens; Nl, v
ngetê - pestle; Nl
ngéya - buy; Vtr, -redd, ng
ngêya - palm of the hand; N2; Post position
tâ.ányáyêya - It is mine.
ngeyǎ - rope; Nl
ngewɔ̂ɔ - God; Nl, ir (?ngel.ě-wɔl.ɔ 'big sky')
ngewɔ̂ɔ-yialěmɔ̀ - preacher ('God's word speaker')
ngɛ́l.ɛ - laugh; Nl; Vint, la, ng; Vint, mngob*
* maǎyɛ̂l.ɛng.ɔ̀ - It is funny.
yɛ́l.ɛ.àX - laugh at X
ngɛl.î - abuse, insult, curse; Vtr, ng
ngî.la - dog; Nl
ngí.la - wipe, sweep, brush; Vtr, m, h, mbu, ng
maǎyí.la - to brush
ngil.ǐ - tie up, dress; Vtr, m, h, ng
also ngil.î
hǔyil.ǐ - tie up, confuse
ngíl.i - cook; Vtr, h, int, ng; Vint
ngítiya - outside
ngíti.îya - the outside (nga, Loc)
ngíye - hill, mound, mountain; Nl
ngó - voice, own; N2

ngolâ - forest; N1

ngol.ě - song; N1, v

ngól.e - shear, cut hair; Vtr, ng

ngól.i - 1) ear; N2
2) tail; N2

ngolǐ - urine; N2
ngolǐbô - urinate (expel, shoot)

ngól.o - break, shatter (bottles, mirrors); Vtr, -redd, ng

ngolǒ - chimpanzee; N1

ngómbi - knee; N2

ngóto - buttocks; N2

ngóva - grow old; Vint, redd, ng, at

ngów.o - hip; N2, ir

ngɔ - all (with numerals)

ngɔ̂ - elder brother (and honorific); N3, vob

ngɔfɛ - ferretings, discoveries; N1, v

ngɔkǎ - eel-like fish (Krio: bluní); N1, non

ngɔ́l.i - Vtr, ngaob, ng
ngángɔ́l.i - to fine

ngɔ́l.ɔ - cry; Vint
ngɔ́l.ɔ-mɔ-mia - It's (he's) a cry baby.

ngɔl.ɔ̌ - become big; Vint, ng, at* (vob)
* ngɔl.ɔ̌ becomes waa (definite waa.á) when joined to nouns

ngɔmbǔ - fire; N1, (mutates to y)
ngɔmbǔ-gɔtu - ember

ngɔ́ngɔ̂ - tooth; N2 (mutates to y)
also ngɔ́ngɔ̂li

ngɔ́yɔ - gather, pick up; Vtr, h, -redd, ng

ngú - melt, wake up; Vtr, int, h, ng
hǔwú - mix up, confuse

nguǎ - shove, push in, enter; Vtr, li, ng; Vint, la
tâ.á`wuǎma - He is entering.
tâ.á`wuǎma`la - He is entering with it.

ngúa - 1) wash clean; Vtr, m, h, ng (mutated form: wá)
2) produce, prosper; Vint, ng
ngufê - become ashamed; Vint, ma, ng
ngufê-hinda - shameful thing
ngǐwufêngɔ̀ - He is ashamed.
ngukpě - stump; N1
ngulâ - thick patch of bush; N1
also ngolâ, ngolô
ngúl.i - paddle; Vtr, h
hǔwúl.i - dip out
ngúl.u - tree, wood; N1
ngulû - black cobra; N1
ngú.lɔ - oil; N1
mɔtó-wu.lɔ - automotive oil
tɔlû-wu.lɔ - coconut, groundnut oil
nikîl.i-wu.lɔ - groundnut oil
siǎ-wu.lɔ - rubbing oil
pu-wu.lɔ - imported oils
mɛ̌hɛ̂yíliwù.lɔ - food cooking oil
ngú.lɔ-gbɔl.u - palm oil (red oil)
ndá-wu.lɔ - edible oil
also ndá-ngu.lɔ, (without C mutation)
ngumbá - on the top of; Loc
ngúndu - raw, fresh; (Vint, vb, redd, ng, ya, at); Adj, redd, ya, at
nguǔ - head; N2
nguǔndía - directly overhead (no C mutation)
nguǔ-ndia - (head) hair, (no C mutation)
nikǎ - cow; N1
nikǎ-hua - beef
nikîl.i - groundnut
mɛndé-nikil.i - Mende groundnuts
soso-nikil.i - Susu groundnuts
pu-nikil.i - breadnut, figs, dates ('English groundnut')

níkpɔ - rub, scrub; Vtr, h, m, nga, -red, ng

ními - very (sugary) sweet; Vint, red, ya, ng

níminimi - very sweet

ninǎ - become new; Vint, ng, at

ningin - high, good (feeling); (Vint, vb, ya, ng) Adj, ya, ng

njaǎ - water, river; N1

njaǎ-ve - high tide

njaǎ-low.a - well, water hole

njagbe - nephew, niece; N1

njal.ǎ - 1) big cat, leopard; N1, v

2) indigo; N1, v

njal.ǎ-gula - indigo cloth (gará)

njal.ǎ-loma - indigo shirt

njal.a - does not occur, see yal.a

njasǎ - palm branch; N1

njasǎ-wɛl.ɛ - palm branch house

ǹjé - mother; N3; njè; N1

nyáǹjé (¯ ¯) - my mother

ǹjémɔ - mother-in-law; N1

ǹjě-wul.o - MoSi, FaSi, Father's other wives (?tone)

ǹjékòhú - of the same mother

njé - goat; N1

njég.e - does not occur, see yég.e

njeǐ - lower, humiliate; Vtr, m, mahu, ng

mahǔ-yei - humility

njêngulû - tarantula; N1

also njêngulô

njɛpɛ̌ - talk, discuss; N1, m; Vint, la

yɛpɛ̌.àX - complain about X

njîa - quarrel; N1, Vint, redd, ma, ng; Vtr

maǎyîa - talk about

maánjîa - quarrelsome person, (no C mutation, note tone)

yîaXma - reprimand X

njiǐ - sleep; Vint, ng
nɔ́nɔyìǐngɔ̀ - The milk is clabbered.
njîva - meat dead of disease; Nf
njîva-hua - unclean, forbidden meat
njolǎ - make, become filthy, dirty; Vint, tr, h, ng
njolǎ-yaa - filthiness
njolǎ-mɔ - filthy person
njombǒ - hair; N2; feather; Nl
tɛ́-yombo - chicken feather
njow.ǒ - potato; Nl, ir
njow.ǒ-law.a - potato leaf
njow.ǒ-yil.i - cooked potato
njow.ǒ-law.a-hakpa - potato leaf soup
njoyɔ̂ - send, take, bring (a gift); Vtr, ma, ng
XyoyôYma - send Y an X
nɔ́mi - 1) algae, moss, green scum; Nl
2) become green; Vint, vb, ng
nɔ́h.ɔ - make dirty; Vtr, red, ng; craw-craw, scabies; Nl
nɔkɔ̂ - elbow; N2
nɔmɔlî - soapstone figure of a devil; Nl
nɔ́nɔ - milk; Nl, ir
nɔ́nɔ-lula - spoiled milk
nɔɔ̂ - insist; Vint, ma, ng, il
nɔɔ̂Xma - insist on X
nɔtɔ - clam, mussel; Nl, ir
núm.u - person; Nl
núm.u-vul.u - 'soul' (living person)
núm.ungà.a - relatives
nungâ.a - people; Nl, v (this is a plural form, ? from núm.ungà.a)
nungɛ̂.ɛ.îsià - peoples, types, groups, nations
nyahâ - woman, wife; Nl
nyahâ-yia - woman palaver
nyahâ-yaa - womanhood
nyahâ-lo - daughter
nya.â-po - mistress, woman (? from nyahâ)

nyámu - become bad, ugly; Vint, ng, ya, at
nyandě - become beautiful; Vint, ng, at
nyanî - spoil, bankrupt; N1; Vint, tr, ng
nyangbě - fox; N1
nyâpo - woman, female; (opposite of hiîndo); N1
nyawɛ́ - March; Adv, t, v
nyɛ́ - fish; N1
nyɛî - write; Vtr, red, h, ng
also nyɛɛ̂
nyɛnɛ̂ - liver; N2
nyî - bite; Vtr, -red, -redred, h, ng
nyínyinyînyi - to maul
nyikɔ - as (like)
yeépɛ́l.ɛ.íjînyìkɔ - this kind of house...
nyimǐ - step on, run over; Vint, ma, ng
nyína - rat, mouse; N1
nyíni - breast; N2
nyíni-yaa - milk (from njaǎ)
nyɔ́ - Vtr, hob, ng
hǔnyɔ́ - repay, return insult
nyɔnyɔ̂ - measles; N1, ir
nyɔɔ̌ - corn; N1
nyɔɔ̌-li - corn cob (heart)
nyɔkɔ̂ - sugar cane; N1
nyɔkɔ̂-law.a - sugar cane leaf
nyɔ̂ɔnyɔ̂ɔ - one another
nyúma - chew; Vtr, h, -red, ng
nyúma-nyuma - chew to pieces

-- η --

ηamǎ - blood; N2
ηanyǎ - sand; N1
ηɔ́na - cut, wound; Vtr, h, m, -red, ng
ηɔ̂n.a - become bitter; Vint, ng, red, at

ŋɔnǐ - 1) bird; Nl

ŋɔnǐ-bambi - bird snare

2) oyster; Nl (not countable)

ŋúaŋua - hunchback disease, the hump; Nl

ŋúaŋua-mɔ.í - a hunchback

-- P --

pǎ - come; Nl; Vint, la, il

tâ.á`wǎma`la - He is bringing it. (come with)

paǎ - kill; Vtr, -red, -redred, ng

waǎ-paa - much killing

waapaǎ-waapaa - very much killing

pâl.a - parlor; Nl, v

pal.ǐ - deep pool in the stream; Nl

pámba - vine (used for cord) (?*Pandanus candelabrum*); Nl

mutates to b

panda - well, good, carefully; Adv, s

`pé.epànda - Do it well.

pâni - galvanized, corrugated metal, pan; Nl, non

pâni-wɛl.ɛ - pan roof house

patá - mud; Nl, non

patǐ - stew, paste; Nl

pâun - pound (lb.); Nl

pawa - pay for; Vtr, m, non, ng

`pawangɔ̀ - It (the bill) has been paid (for).

ngǐpawangɔ̀ - He has been paid.

pé.e - do, make, cause; Vtr, ng
also pí.e

peka - other; Adj (mutates to y and sometimes w)

han.ǐ.îyeépèkɛ.íná - that other thing

gbêng.i-yeka - the other morning

pelǎ - run away; Vint, ng

pel.ě - road; Nl

mɔtó-wel.e - automotive roadway

jiǎ-wel.e - foot path

huǎ-wel.e - game path

petû - locust; Nl, ir

pɛ́pɛ - often; Adv, id, s

pɛ́gba - January; Adv, t, v

pɛ́in - before

pɛ́in...ya - before

pɛ́inbí`pé.e - before you do it...

lɛpɛ́in - before, very first thing

pɛkû - sardines, minnows, bait; Nl

pɛl.ɛ̌ - 1) stoop; Vint, ng, ni

tâ.á`wɛl.ɛ̌n.ì - He is stooping, (stooped).

2) bend down, bow; Vtr, m, ng

3) cover, put on hat; Vtr, ma, ng

4) disappoint, deceive; Vtr, ng

pɛ́l.ɛ - 1) glob of cooked rice sticking on something; Nl

2) house; Nl, v

pɛl.ɛ - blame on; Vtr, ma, ng

Xwɛl.ɛYma - blame X on Y

pɛ́tîku - spectacles; Nl

pîa - avocado; Nl

piîmɛ̂ - run; Vint, ng

pil.î - throw (away), shoot (not shoot at); Vtr, ng

pindɛ̂ - jump; Nl; Vtr, Vint, -redd

also pundɛ̂

piw.ikpâ - porcupine, porcupine quills; Nl, v

píya - basket for trapping and carrying fish; Nl

pláiminîsa - prime minister; Nl, non

plînti - print cloth, dress; Nl, non

pǒ - Nf, (death, dead)

pǒ-han.i - inheritance

pǒ-nyaha - widow

pǒ-lo - orphan

also pǒ-ndo (no C mutation)

pǒ-ndo-yaa - orphanhood

pomǎ - corpse

pók𝔬̂ - imitate; Vtr, ng

poló - polo shirt; Nl, ir

pólon - far away; Adv, id, s

pôma - behind, in favor of; Loc

póndo - December; Adv, t, ir

pôoma - behind, back; N2; Loc

pôowôo - domestic pigeon; Nl, ir

popǒ - carry a child on the back; Vtr, ng

pópo - light (not heavy); Vint, ng, ya, non

potê - turn over, convert; Vtr, Vint, -redd, ng, il

pɔ́ - 1) fell, hew; Vtr, -red, -redred, ng

  2) far (away); Adv, s, ya

pɔ̂l.ɔ - dirt, mud; Nl

  pɔ̂l.ɔ-waa - mud flat, house plaster ('killed mud')

  pɔ̂l.ɔ-wɛl.ɛ - mud house

pɔ́na - become straight; Vint, ng, at, ya, redd, h

  pɔ́na-hinda - righteousness

  pɔ́na-mɔ - righteous person

pɔnɔ - uncircumcised; (Vint, vb, ng) Nf

  pɔnɔ-mɔ - uncircumcised person

pɔnɔ̂ - tie in a knot; Vtr, ng

pɔ́.ɔ - porro society; Nl (definite pɔ́.ɛ or pɔ́.ɛ.í)

pɔ̂un - pound (British); Nl

pu - England, English, foreigner, white man; Nl

  pu-nikil.i - Breadnut

  pu-hinda - white man's business

  pu-jɛwu - guinea pig

pû - cave; Nl

pú - put (plus Loc), plant rice, pour out, confuse; Vtr, ng, il

  ngǐwùngɔ̀béi - He is put here.

  `púngɔ̀ - It is planted, plowed under.

  pumá-mɔ - one who surprises people for evil purposes; burglar, kidnapper

pujâ - dig, till, lay a foundation; Vtr, -redd, ng

pujɛ - pepper; N1
    pu-wujɛ - imported pepper
    pujɛ-nyɛnyɛ - small hot peppers
    pujɛ-waa - green peppers
pûkpuǎ - root up something; Vtr, ng
pulû - intestine; N2
    nikǎ-wulu - cows intestine
    huǎ-wulu - intestines used for food
pumǔ - become blind; Vint, ng
    pumǔ-mɔ - blind person
pundî - mosquito; N1
pupû - common ant; N1
puǔ - ten; Num
puulɛɛ - pale; Adv, ng, ya

-- S --

sâ - 1) September; Adv, t, vob
    2) sacrifice; N1, vob
    sâ-loolo - ceremonial kola nut
sâbu - helpful; Nf
    sâbu-mɔ - helpful person
sâhu - by the help, influence of (? from já.a, 'touch')
sakî - cassava leaf; N1
    see jakî
    sakîtɔ̂mbɔ; N1
sál.e - parable; N1
sal.ǐ - meddling, fiddling, kidding; N1; Vint, non
    tâ.á̀ salǐ.îgulǎma - He is (releasing) meddling.
sâlo - orange; N1, ir
salôon - Sierra Leone peninsula, (normally does not include the provinces)
samǎ - important person; N1
    samǎ-waa - 'big man'

sámba - basket; N1

tangǎ-jamba - cassava basket

ndúvu-jamba - reed basket

kulǎ-jamba - basket made of cloth, any basket for carrying cloth

sambâ - gift; N1; Vtr, ng

sámbo - disgrace; N1; Vtr, ng

sángba - musical instruments (i.e. drums, flutes); N1

mahǎ-jangba - chief's band

sángbawó - voice of the instruments

sani - bottle; N1

sapó - plant fiber bathing scrubber; N1

saw.á - three; Num

tǐ-ja.angɔ - all three of them

sawa - law; N1

sêka - chigger; N1

also sîka

sema - bamboo (*Bambusa vulgaris* and *Chlorophora regis*); N1

sénde - pour; Vtr, ng

sɛ́kɛndɛ - cemetery (Muslim); N1

sɛ́lɛ - banana; N1

sɛ̂l.i - pray; Vint

sɛ̂l.i-ma - prayer grounds

sɛ́mbɛ - big; Vint, ng, at

sɛ́mɛ - barre, chief's court; N1, v

sɛ́sɛ - chip; Vtr, ng

sɛ́wɛsɛwɛ - very clean; Adv, id

sɛ́wûlo - 'cotting gras'

sî - spinning top (for a game); N1

siǎ - 1) walk (English tr. and int.), drive, ride; Vtr, Vint, ma, -redd, ng, il

jiǎ-jia - walk about (also jiǎ-sia)

maǎjiǎ - to sell

jìa`kpla.á- Walk toward it!

2) rub; Vtr, ng

síabɛ - although, since, even though

síahûna - now

also číahûna

sibâ - onion; Nl, v

síha - lend, borrow; Vtr, ng

siîlo.o - spider; Nl

kásìîlo.o- bra (Br'er) spider

símbîti - Saturday; Adv, t

símɛ̂nti - cement; Nl, non

slêti - slate; Nl, non

sôda - caustic soda; Nl

solǐ - avoid, abstain; Vint, ma; Male genital; N2

jolǐXma - to avoid X (X - N or V)

sondû - curse; Vtr, ng

songbâ - snap onto; Vtr, ng

sɔ̂bu - shovel; Nl, non

sɔkɔ̂ - penetrate, make enter; stitch and tie cloth for gara dyeing;
Vtr, h, -redd

pɛ́l.ɛjɔ̀kɔ̂ - thatch a roof

sɔ́ku - corner, hiding place; Nl

sɔ́kuma - hiding place

sɔlɛ̂ - noise; Nl; Vint, ng

ngǐjɔlɛ̂ngɔ̀ - He is noisy.

sɔ́li - spear; Nl

nyɛ́gbɛ́jɔ̀li - fishing spear

kɔ́-jɔli - battle spear

kɔ́gɔ́jɔ̀li - war-making spear

sɔndɛ̂ - hiss at; Vtr, ng

sɔ́ngɔ - price, cost; Nl

sɔɔ̌ - have, receive, obtain; Vtr, int, m, ng

sɔɔ̂ - have sexual intercourse; Vint, ng

ngǐjɔɔ̂ngɔ̀ - She is no longer a virgin.

sɔ́sɔ - press into, penetrate; Vtr, ng, il

sûbu - jungle cat, lion, leopard; N1
suɛ́ - Adv, t, -reddob, vob
  suɛ́-juɛ - June
súkuma - jeopardy, purgatory; N1
sûmbu - lead (weight); N1
sûpu - soup; N1 (irregular C mutation)
  nyɛ́-supu - fish soup
  bɔndɔ́-jupu - okra soup
súsu - become deep; Vint, ng, ya, at

-- T --

tá - very one
  jîtá - this very one
taa - shell, nest, den, colony; N1, non
  sîka-taa - chigger cyst
  higbɔ̌-taa - paper wasp nest
  jímɔ-taa - small wasp nest
  gil.î-taa - white ant hill
  ŋɔnǐ-taa - bird nest
  kɔl.ɔ̌-taa - envelope
  pupû-taa - ant hill
tá - (? from ndá)
  tá-waa - forehead; N2
taǎ - town; N1, v
  taǎ-mɔ - male citizen
taá - 'and' (with nouns)
  jótàátɔ̀míl.ɔ́béi - Joe and Tommy are here.
tal.ǎ - creep, crawl; Vint, ng, il
  ngǐlal.ǎngɔ̀ - He crawls.
  tal.a-lo.í - grandchild; N1
tal.âta - Tuesday; Adv, t
  tal.âtɛ.îma - on Tuesday
tál.i - does not occur, see lál.i

tál.u - nine; Num, ir, non

also táw.u (possible consonant crossover)

táma - become foolish; N1, Vint, m, ng

támagbɛ́ - be foolish ('chase foolishness')

támbo - straighten out; Vtr, ng

tangǎ - cassava; N1

tangǎ-jɛsɛ - cassava chips

tangǎ-la.a - cassava leaf (ndáw.a)

tangǎ-gbuka - boiled cassava pieces

tâó - and, moreover ('He also')

tâtó - begin, start; Vint, la, ng (? from ndá toǒ)

also tâtoô, tâtoǒ

tâtó.àX - begin doing X

tatô - give praise to, Vtr, ng

tavâ - smoking pipe; N1

taw.ǎ - tobacco; N1, v

taw.ǎ-vuka - ground tobacco

taw.á - calabash; N1, v

tá-waa - forehead; N2

also ndá-waa (possible consonant mutation crossover)

tému - apologize to, beg pardon; Vtr, fa, ng; N1

XlémuYfâ - apologize to X for Y

témuléw.e - make an apology

téni - small bit; Adv, s, id, ya, red, ng

tetě - female genital; N2

tew.ě - surpass, pass by; Vint, ma, ng

lew.ěXma - surpass X, pass by X

tew.emǎ-yaa - victory

also tew.emá-yaa

ngǐlew.ěngɔ̀Xma - He is surpassed by X.

lew.ě.àpiîmê.í - Run as fast as you can.

téw.e - cut, cross, chop; Vtr, h, redd, ng

téw.e-tew.e - chop up

hǔléw.e - cross in front (of someone)

nɛmâhuléw.engɔ̀ - brain's insides is sharp (cutting)

tɛ́ - 1) raise, sniff, climb, lift; Vtr, m, ng, il
maǎlɛ́ - thatch, cover
`ngátɛ́ - set (up) trap or fire
2) chicken; Nl
tɛɛ̂nga - perhaps
tɛl.ǐ - become black, dye any color, blacken; Vint, Vtr, ng, at
tɛmǔ - short black devil (his presence leaves one speechless); Nl
tɛnɛ̂ - Monday; Adv, t
tɛnɛ̂.îma - on Monday
tɛtɛ - early (with morning); Adv, t
ngeêndatɛtɛ - early morning
tɛ́tɛ - hatch; Vtr, ng
tɛ́vɛlɛvɛ - thin (like slices); (Vint, vb, ng, ya) Adj, ng, ya
tí - Vtr, hob, non, ng
hǔtí - stir
tî - island; Nl
tiá - and (see taá) ('He and...')
tifǎ - leaf, (particularly herbs for medicine); Nl
tigbî - lean, beach the bow of a boat; Vint, tr, ma, ng, il, ni
XligbîYma - lean X on Y
`tìgbi`kpla.á - Lean it toward it!
tâ.á`ligbîn.ì - He is leaning (leaned).
tiîka - 1) ember, coal, charcoal ash; Nl
2) cataract of the eye; Nl
tíkpɔ - walking stick; Nl
see ndikpɔ̌
tímba - roll (fine fibers into string); Vtr, -redd, ng
also ndímba, (possible consonant mutation crossover)
timitími - numbness; Nl
timitími.ínyálòkǒ.îhoǐng.a - My hand is asleep.
tôgbo - make wither; Vtr
togbǒ - wither; Vint, -redd, ng, at
tóke - quietly, cautiously; Adv, id

tokǒ - hand, arm; N2

tokǒ-vɛlɛ - palm of hand

tokǒ-lo - fingers

tôl.i - calling (for help, animal calls); N1

tól.i - call, name; Vtr, la, il

tǎ`tòl.i.àndɛndɛ̌.í - They (will) call it a boat.

tôl.o - sleeveless country cloth shirt; N1, ir

tól.o - 1) leech; N1, ir

2) hate, be jealous; Vint, la, ng

lól.o.àX - be jealous of X

ngǐlól.ongɔ̀ - He is hateful.

tól.ogbùǎ - to covet

tolomǎ-yaa - envy

tômbo - patch, stitch; Vtr, redd, h, ng

hǔlômbo - fill in

tómbo - farm ruins, planting heaps; N1

tómbo-nina - recently abandoned farm

toǒ - stand, erect; Vtr, Vint, -redd, -redredd, ma, ng, il, ni, kulɔ

nɛnɛ.íjî-mia`ndálòongɔ̀pɛ́lɛ.îsiàl.ɔ̂ma - The subject in this picture is houses.

ngǐloǒngɔ̀ - It is sent, stood, built

`tòo`kpla.á- Stand it near it!

toǒ-too - stand around

loǒ-too - send (someone, something) around

tɔǒ-ma - position, place

tokǒlòǒXma - to appoint X ('put hand on')

toǒ-han.i - cattle ('stood things')

lòoXgu.lɔ́ - to lead (stand in front) (Vint, il)

tooku.lɔ́-mɔ - leader

ndálòǒ - to escort

tâ.á`loǒn.ì - He is standing (stood).

toôl.o - kola nut; N1

nyahâgɔ̂l.i-lool.o - wife bargaining kola

sâ-lool.o - ceremonial kola nut

tów.a - pumpkin; N1

tów.u - palm kernel with oil bearing pericarp; N1

tɔ́ - see; Vtr, h, ng

hǔlɔ́ - to foresee, comprehend

tɔ̂gbɔ - soak; Vtr, h, ng

hǔlɔ̂gbɔ - saturate

tɔhɛ̂ - cough; N1; Vint, ng

ngǐlɔhɛ̂ngɔ̀ - He is a cougher.

tɔ́kplâ - seat, bottom; N2

tɔ́kpɔ - palm tree; N1

tɔ́kpɔ-hape - palm roots

tɔ́kpɔ-la.a - palm fronds

tɔ́kpɔ-yasa - palm thatch

tɔlî - palm nut, same as tɔl.û

tɔl.û - palm nut, (any) nut, kidney; N1

tɔ́ma - namesake; N3, non

tɔmasêli - witness, omen; N1

tɔ́mbu - dip, sink; Vtr, Vint, -redd, ng

tɔmbu - Vint, -reddob, ng, ya

tɔmbu-lɔmbu - tepid

also tɔmu, tɔmu-lɔmu

tɔnɔ - one who does all the dirty work; N1

tɔtɔ̌ - sorcery; N1, ir

tɔtɔ̌gbɛ́ - to practice sorcery; seeing

tɔtɔ̌-mɔ - person possessing powers of sorcery

tɔw.ɔ - bean; N1

tɔ́w.ɔ - fame; N1

tɔ́w.ɔgbùǎ - to become famous

tuɛntûɛn - tickle; Vtr, ng

also lɔntûɛn

ngǐluɛntûɛnngɔ̀ - He is ticklish.

tugbâ - trip; Vtr, Vint, ng

tú-han.i - vegetables, fruits; N1

tukpê - push; Vtr, int, ng, h, il
ˋtùkpeˋkpla.á - Push it near it!
ˋtukpêˋkpla.á- Push it away from it!
ngǐwuǔ.îhulukpêngɔ̀ - He is unstable. ('head is pushed')
túma - agree, answer; Vint, tr, ng
túmbe - sputter with anger; Vint, ng, at
gboyâ-lumbe - angry sea
tûmbu - dwarf; Nl
túpu - large black water snake; Nl
tutú - go-between; Nl, ir
tútu - become deaf; Vint, h, ng, at
ngolihǔ-lutu - deaf ears
tuvâ - be, spend time, exist; Vint

-- V --

vál.e - Vtr, mob, ndob, ng
maǎvál.e - plead
maǎ-valemɔ̀ - lawyer
ngǐmaǎvál.engɔ̀ - He has been pleaded for.
vanjǎ - loincloth; Nl
véni - height, pointed, skinny; Vint, ng, red, ya
véniveni - tall enough to be blown down
vivî - storm, stormy wind; Nl
vombo - swift current; Nl
vôónu - last year; Adv, s, t
vó.otɛ - curse
bívó.otɛ - a curse on you
vɔmí - minimal bikini, g-string; Nl
vúl.i - indeed, very much; Adv, s
bíâvúl.i-mia - you yourself...
vûl.u - February; Adv, t, ir
vûl.u.îhu - in February

-- W --

waa - big, large, very much (with size); Adj, at; Adv, s

from ngɔl.ɔ̌ (see ngɔl.ɔ̌)

ngǐg.lôngɔ̀, waa - He is small, very.

waǎ - Vtr, mob, ng

maǎwaǎ - reward, dash

wal.ǎ - wooden writing slate; Nl, v

also wal.á

wâl.i - Vtr, mob, ma

maǎwâl.i - deny, refuse, reject

wal.ǐ - village open air cooking place (requires <u>hu</u>)

wal.ǐhu - community open-air cooking and working area

wal.ǐ.îhu - definite

wáti - time; Nl

wátiyɛ̀gbɛ̂ - What time is it? (Time says what?)

wáyâkpa - eight; Num

wɛí - in the near future; Adv, s

ngá`wǎ`.á,wɛ̀í - I will come soon. (.á from l.ɔ́)

wɛ́-ita - six; Num

wɛ́l.ɛ - remnant, food scrap; Nl

wîki - 1) week; Nl

2) wick; Nl

wol.o - see kû.lo

wôl.ó - listen; Vint, ma, ng (? from ngól.i toǒ)

often wôloɔ́

ngǐwôlóngɔ̀ - He is attentive.

wó.o - own

nyáwó.o-mia - It is my own.

wôoma - back; N2

see pôoma

wôomavé - turn away (give your back to)

wɔ́-fi.la - seven; Num

wɔ́.ɔ - in the distant past; Adv, s
.ìwǎn.i`l.ɔ́, wɔ́.ɔ - He came some time ago.
wɔ́.ɔ̂-mia, .ìwǎn.i - In the past, he came.
.ìyawɔ́.ɔgbàwàn.ìbéi - He never comes here.
kí.awɔ́.ɔgbà.ìyawàn.ìbéi - He never comes here.

wúâma - faint; Vint

wuvê - Vtr, hob, mob, ng
hǔwuvê - exchange
maǎwuvê - exchange

-- Y --

yá - 'gone' cf. ndǐ,(lǐng.a becomes lǐa becomes yá)

yabâsi - onion; Nl
pu-yabasi - imported (English) onion

yaka - toward, in X direction
mîyàka? - In which direction?
béiyàka - toward here
nǎ-yaka - toward there (?tone)

yaká - (type of) small grain rice; Nl

yakpé - alone, one; Adv (? from yilǎkpé)
tâyakpé-mialǐn.i - He alone went.

yal.a - become deceitful, sly, be cunning; Vint, ng, ya
yal.a-mɔ - sly person

yámîsi - yam; Nl

yawa - onion; Nl
mɛndé-yawa - Mende onion

yé - hometown; N2, ir

yeé - (noun substitute) one, thing, type, kind
kp geé

yég.e - bone dry; Vint, ya, ng

yékpe - self; Adv
nyáâyékpe-miangí`pé.en.ì - I did it myself.

yel.á - one; Num (see ngé.la)
see hal.a
see itá

yél.e - shout; Nl

yél.egùlǎ - shout ('drop') a shout

yése - first; Adv

nyáâyése-miangí`fôon.inà - I got there first.

yɛ - be, become, dwell at, (plus Loc); Vint (deleted in present)

ngíyɛ̀l.ɔ́nà - I was there.

yɛ̀l.ɔ́ - once upon a time

yɛkɛ - wobbly, unsteady; Vint, ng, red, ya

.ìyaǎyɛkɛ - It is wobbly.

yii - 'way to do' (V plus yii)

also gii

yeépé.eyìi`l.ɔ́ - That's the way to do it.

yonga - pride; Nl, (Vint, vb, ng) Adj

yongaléw.e - to boast ('cut pride')

yongaléw.emɔ̀ - bragger

ngǐyongangɔ̀ - He is proud.

yɔ́ni - (species) wasp; Nl

yubá - vulture; Nl